Alabama Cotton Study Report Lends Support To 'Little Farmer' Ranks

BY GEORGE PRENTICE

Does the family-size farm have the right to exist?

That was the question hidden behind the front of a formal report issued here Friday by Alabama's Cotton Study Committee.

A minority report on the subject followed the national philosophy, which Under Secretary of Agriculture Benson decrees that the "marginal farmer has no place in our modern economy."

A majority of the committee, however, agreed that the family-size farm has a place in the rural economy of the Southeast and offered suggestions for its survival.

One side contends that proposals of a minority report offered by Sen. Walter Givhan "actually legislat the small farmer out of existence."

Givhan admits that his program is basically one proposed by the Alabama Farm Bureau and the National Cotton Council and generally agrees with Benson's overall plan. It is known as the "A-B" program.

The farmer in 1959 could accept choice "A" — the present program with estimated 14 million acres and price supports under present law (currently estimated at 90 per cent of parity). Or, choice "B" a price support program providing for 15 percentage points of parity less than "A" and 40 per cent increase in individual acreage allotments that would otherwise be effective for such farm in 1959 under present law.

COTTON PROGRAM

And in 1960 — "give individual cotton producers a choice between "A", the acreage allotment provided under the present law and price support as provided under present law (same as under choice "A" for 1959); or, "B" 90 per cent of the previous three year average market price as reflected in the 14 spot markets and 40 per cent increase in individual acreage allotment that would otherwise be in affect under present law.

In 1961, under the Givhan proposal, the price support would equal 90 per cent of the average of the previous three-year market price as reflected by the 14 designated markets.

But those who talk of doing things for the small farmer say he can't exist under this program.

LONG RANGE

"This is the long range way of legislating him out of business," said Bob Gilchrist, chairman of the Cotton Study Committee.

"And we think he should be allowed to make his own choice in the matter," he continued. "Let him try and go broke, but at least let him try."

Alabama currently has more than 40,000 farmers with four acres or less in cotton. "They can't live on that amount," Gilchrist says.

"With price guarantees and acreage allotments remaining the same during the next few years the family-size farm has to fold up," he said. "It can't compete with the corporate farm of the far west, or the larger farm of the Southeast because it isn't allowed to expand."

PRESENT PROGRAM

He explained further that since the "small Alabama farmer" cannot expect an increase in acreage under the present program, then his only hope would be in increased production.

Gilchrist says a number of things must happen to keep the small farm on the agriculture front. They include:

First, nearly all controls must be taken off the farmer's acreage allotments; second, the government must get out of the cotton business; third, the farmer must be guaranteed his proportionate share of the national income; and fourth, he must be assisted by research programs carried on at the national level.

Removal of control, he points out, will allow the small farmer to increase production enough to exist.

"Plotted on a cost-per-hour basis, the family farm then can compete with the large corporate layout," he declared.

The comparison was made this way.

The large corporate farm spends vast sums on fertilizer and machinery for high production and efficiency.

The little farmer would spend less on "land improvements," use members of his family to tend and harvest the crops, and thus keep his costs proportionately in line with the big producer. "This way he can compete," he said.

Getting the government out of cotton business was another major point in the chairman's proposals.

STORAGE HOUSE

Most cotton sold now goes immediately into a government storage house and subsequently is turned onto the domestic or foreign markets.

The farmer is paid the prevailing support price at the time his product is accepted at the warehouse, he said. "However, it is sold on both the foreign and domestic markets at substantially less than the government loan price to the farmer," he continued. "Thus the subsidy actually is going to the manufacturer or the foreign buyer."

The committee is asking that the government get out of the warehouse business and let the farmer sell his cotton again on the open market.

WAREHOUSE ABOLITION

Federal outlay would be reduced in the abolition of warehouses and the need for administrative services of thousands of clerks and acreage plotters now used in the control program.

Some limitations, rather than outright controls, would be retained under the new plan.

The farmer would be guaranteed the difference between the price received for his cotton and 100 per cent of parity. This would be paid him at the time of the sale on his proportion share of the national quota.

For instance, if his quota amounted to 10 acres, the 100 per cent parity provision would apply only to production from that acreage.

Production from any acreage above 10, would be sold at the prevailing market price without benefit of subsidy. But the farmer himself would be left the choice as to how many acres he would plant. Such decisions now are made by the government.

"The choice of whether or not to produce cotton in any particular year should lie solely with the farmer himself," a report of the Cotton Study Committee said.

Gilchrist and most other members of the committee said the farmer "is thoroughly disgusted with the measuring of cotton acreage, penalties for over-planting, loss of acreage for under-planting, and plowing up cotton for which he has spent his hard-earned money in preparing the soil and putting the seed in the ground."

A certain amount of subsidy still would be needed by the farmer so long as other segments of the economy were subsidized by any form of government support, they said.

Their sentiments were expressed in the following statement:

"So long as labor is given subsidies in the nature of minimum wage laws, and so long as wages remain high as a result of the bargaining power of organized labor and prices of the products that a farmer has to buy reflect the subsidized high wage scale, and the business and industrial elements receive protection by virtue of protective tariffs and various high tax write-off measures, the American farmer should be guaranteed a fair share of the national income."

CAN THE FAMILY-SIZE COTTON FARM PAY ITS OWN WAY TODAY? Majority Of Legislative Committee Says, 'Give Them A Chance'

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CAN THE FAMILY-SIZE COTTON FARM PAY ITS OWN WAY TODAY?
Majority Of Legislative Committee Says, 'Give Them A Chance'

API Plans Macon Cotton Exhibition

Special to The Post-Herald

TUSKEGEE, Aug. 8—Methods of irrigating cotton are to be shown during tours of farms in the Shorter area today.

Slated to begin at 9:30 a.m., the tour is being sponsored by the API Extension Service and the Soil Conservation Service, states Macon Assistant County Agent Bill Forehand. It will begin at the Segrest Farm located on U.S. 80. The tour will include visits to the Englehardt and Thompson Farms in Shorter and the Ben Walker Farm on the banks of the Tallapoosa River in Milstead.

While irrigation methods—both boom and furrow types—are the main feature of the tour, there will also be demonstrations on insect control and fertilization of irrigated cotton.

Among those expected to attend are machinery and insecticide dealers, bankers, farmers interested in irrigation, and state and county agricultural workers. Anyone else interested is invited to join the tour at either the Englehardt and Thompson store in Shorter or the Tuskegee Courthouse.

Basic Rate Under Reserve Program Announced As $12 Per Acre For 1959

Alabama's basic rate for annual rental payments under the Soil Bank's 1959 Conservation Reserve program has been set at $12 per acre, D. G. Johnson, chairman of the Macon Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, has announced. For previous years of the program, the state's basic annual payment rate was $8 per acre.

Average annual payment rates for Alabama counties, based on the 1959 state rate, will be announced later, Mr. Johnson declared. These county rates will vary according to land productivity, rental values and the fixed costs farmers will have to meet to comply with the program.

Individual farm rates within a county will vary along the same lines, except that no farm rate may exceed 20 per cent of the value of the land in the farm.

The 1959 Conservation Reserve program included additional incentives for farmers to "reserve" all their eligible land on their farms for at least five years and a priority system for accepting Conservation Reserve contract applications. "Eligible land," in general, is cropland which is regularly used for cultivated crops or tame hay.

As in former years, two types of payment will be made under the program—a cost-share payment for carrying out a conservation practice on the "reserved" land and annual rental payments during the life of the contract.

The Conservation Reserve is being opened early this year, the chairman explained, since the other phase of the Soil Bank—the Acreage Reserve—will not be in 1959. While a refinite opening date has not yet been announced for the program signup, it is expected to start about the first of September.

Corn Yield Over State Indicated As Second Highest Figure On Record

Special ot The News

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Alabama crop prospects on Aug. 1 were quite good generally. Showers were fairly general over the state during July. Soil moisture has been adequate for crop requirements; and in some infields, has been excessive and some crop damage has resulted.

The frequent showers allowed crops, grasses, and weeds to put on a vigorous, heavy, vegetative growth. The rains threw insect control program off schedule, and the lush growth in the fields made it difficult to get proper coverage when insecticides were applied. Consequently, there was a build-up in the insect population during the latter part of July.

The early and mid-season corn crops are made and prospects are excellent. Late planted corn prospects are fairly good, but are not on a par with earlier planted fields. Cotton has generally grown a large, vigorous plant and crop prospects are good. Boll weevil infestation became heavy in some areas, particularly the southern counties, during the latter part of the month.

The indicated 1958 crop is 58,492,000 bushels, one per cent above last year and the third highest of record. The prospective yield per acre is 28.0 bushels, second only to the record 30.0 bushels yield harvested in 1955. Acreage for harvest is 6 per cent below last year and is down 15 percent from the 10-year average.

A cotton crop of 400,000 bales is indicated for 1958, down 25 per cent from 1957 and 55 per cent below the 1947-56 average. The indicated yield of 353 pounds of line cotton per acre is above last year's yield and is well above the 10-year average.

Allotments For 1959 Cotton Are Being Made Here

Acreage allotments for the 1959 upland cotton crop are now being established for all the eligible farms in Macon County, according to T. R. Cunningham, chairman of the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. Eich cotton farmers will be notified by mail of the two acreage allotments applicable to his farm before the Dec. 15 marketing quota referendum.

Mr. Cunningham explained that this year two allotments will be established for each farm —Choice (A) and Choice (B). If marketing quotas are in effect, the farm operator may elect to comply with the "regular"—Choice (A)—farm allotment and be eligible for price support at the full level available for the crop—not less than 80 per cent of parity in 1959, or he may elect and comply with the Choice (B) allotment—which is 40 per cent larger than under Choice (A) and be eligible for price support at a lower level—15 per cent of parity less than the support under Choice (A). If quotas are not in effect, only the "regular" allotments will be available, and price support on the crop will be at 50 per cent of parity, as directed by law.

Accordng to the chairman the total 1959 "regular" allotment available for distribution within the State is apportioned among counties and the county allotment is apportioned among farms according to provisions of the law and regulations issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The county allotment, less any acreage reserved for new cotton farms, must, under the law, be divided among farms on which cotton was planted or regarded as planted in 1956, 1957 or 1958. The minimum farm allotment for "old" cotton farms is the smaller of 10 acres or the farm's allotment for 1958.

State group to fight cotton law changes

An Alabama delegation this week will attempt to band Southeastern congressmen together against cotton law changes approved by the Senate agriculture committee.

The delegation will go to Washington with Alabama legislative recommendations, and objections to the committee-approved law. The Alabama proposals, patterned in part after the Talmadge Bill, will be urged as a substitute.

The law changes approved in the Senate committee would give cotton growers in 1959 the choice of (A) sticking with acreage controls under the present law; or (B) taking approximately 75 per cent of parity plus a 40 per cent increase in individual acreage allotments.

THIS MEASURE is supported by the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Cotton Council. It may be debated in the Senate next week.

The Alabama delegation will confer with Alabama congressmen and then seek a caucus of Southeastern members of the U. S. House and Senate.

The delegation will carry with it a list of 12 objections to the bill now in the Senate, signed by the chairman and vice chairman of the Alabama legislative cotton study committee. They are Rep. Bob Gilchrist of Morgan County, the chairman, and Rep. Bob Kendall, of Conecuh.

The Alabama legislative cotton study committee suggested a program setting up domestic quotas based on the individual's past production and its ratio to the national total.

On all cotton produced up to the quota, the grower would get a government subsidy equal to the difference between the average market price and 100 per cent of parity.

FOR COTTON produced in excess of the quota, the farmer would get whatever he could on a competitive market.

That part of the legislative committee recommendations follows a bill introduced in Congress by Sen. Herman Talmadge of Georgia.

In addition the committee proposed a continuing research program designed to stimulate cotton consumption, and an appropriation of at least $1 million a year for control and eradication of cotton insect enemies.

The delegation will include Gilchrist; Kendall; State Senator Albert Boutwell of Jefferson (Birmingham) County; Rep. E. R. Solomon of Henry; Rep. James A. Branyon of Fayette; Rep. McDowell Lee, vice chairman of the House agriculture committee; John Loflin of Decatur, representing cotton oil producers; R. T. Dorsey of Birmingham, representing cotton gin machinery interests; Ed Mauldin, farmer and ginner of Colbert County and Maynard Layman, farm editor of The Decatur Daily.

The list of objections signed by Gilchrist and Kendall charges these dangers exist in the cotton law changes approved by the Senate agriculture committee:

1. Reduces both acreage and price in 1959 and thereafter.
2. Abandons the parity principle, thereby giving no consideration to cost of production after 1961.
3. Places burden for all of acreage cuts on the full-time professional cotton farmer.
4. Could conceivably reduce every farm in some counties to 10 acres or less.
5. American Farm Bureau Federation, chief sponsor of the bill, has admitted it would aid in speeding up movement of cotton acreage to Western states.
6. Plan "A" cuts price supports on middling cotton by as much as 6½ cents a pound. Plan "B" cuts price supports as much as 13 cents per pound below what price would be in 1959 under present law.
7. Establishes no fixed floor under price of majority of cotton crop, that which is below middling grade.
8. Turns virtually all cotton marketing over to government and favored monopolies.
9. WOULD REDUCE production in Alabama by considerably more than the acreage reduction because it would become impossible for many farmers to be financed under such a program.
10. Will further reduce purchasing power of farmer.
11. Farmers who might be allowed to increase acreage will do so at cost of 13 cents per pound on all their cotton as compared to present law projected into 1959.
12. Will worsen Alabama's relative position by permitting production increases in Western states at a far greater degree than would be possible in Alabama.

Cotton And Beef Records Set By Macon Farmers

BY J. M. BOLLING
County Agent

Macon County farmers have made history this year in the production of cotton and beef cattle. This year cotton farmers will produce the highest per acre yield of cotton on record for the county, that being 481 pounds per acre. Although the cotton farmers only harvested 9,936 acres, they will produce 9,564 bales. The next highest yield per acre was produced in 1955 that being 420 pounds per acre. Macon County has a cotton allottment of 17,234 acres. Of this amount, 6,695 acres was placed in the Acreage Reserve part of the Soil Bank program.

At the same time that a record yield of cotton was being made, the income from beef cattle exceeded that of cotton by approximately $2 million. The income from cotton and cotton seed was $1,910,000 and farmers received another $388,708 from cotton land placed in the Acreage Reserve program. The income from beef cattle was $3,120,000. This, too, was the highest income on record from the sale of beef cattle.

All totaled, Macon County farmers will produce slightly in excess of $7,000,000 worth of farm products in 1958. Other crops and livestock income that helped to produce this record breaking figure were: Dairying, $355,000; hogs, $175,000; poultry, $265,000; timber and timber products, $475,000; small grain, corn, seed and other crops, $465,000.

This year also produced for the farmers one of the best corn yields that the county has produced, that being approximately 30 bushels per acre. But at the same time that record yields were being made, increased costs were also being experienced.

Farmrs used one-half million pounds of insecticides in an effort to control boll weevils and other insects. Also they used over 13,000 tons of fertilizer on crops and pastures. All other costs of production were also higher in 1958 than in past years. With this being true, it now requires that a farmer produce high yields if he expects to break even and each year he must increase his yields per acre or per unit if he expects to stay on the farm and produce at a profit.

The outlook for 1959 is that the price of most farm commodities will be about what it has been this year. There has been an increase in the number of brood cattle kept on the farms and this will begin to be felt in 1960 as the price declines, if this present trend continues. There will be a slight reduction to the larger cotton farmers in their acreage allotment for 1959, but the price should remain at about the 1958 level. The outlook for egg production is good, but there may be some drop in income from broilers due to an oversupply. Hog production still offers a good opportunity for farmers where economical production can be obtained. The outlook for dairy and dairy products should be as good or better in 1959. If industrial employment continues at a relatively high level, there should be favorable demands for timber products for an expanded home building program.

Farmers should continue to

strive for high production and especially the production of high quality products. The consuming public is demanding more and more quality products and this is going to become more and more important with all segments of our agriculture and industry.

Turn to town jobs for cash—

Full-time farmer disappearing from agriculture scene

BY TRUDY CARGILE
News staff writer

The best years of his life are behind him.

Even if he had time to board the futuristic train, he hasn't the fare. His health is declining and time is past for a new beginning.

This man lives near you.

His name is John A. Farmer.

CARGILE

The A. is for Average, the average Alabama farmer. At 53, John lives with his wife and two children at the end of a work-rutted rural road.

Soon his children will leave him and he will join his kinsmen in retirement age who now make up 20 per cent of the farm operators in Alabama.

The children will go into the towns and the cities and they will find work that is not plowing, planting, hoeing and harvesting.

Children leaving farms

JOHN EXPECTS THIS, for fewer and fewer of the young folks are staying on the old homestead these days. Only 12 per cent of John's kinsmen under 35 years of age are operating farms now.

His children have better educations than their parents were able to obtain. John finished the seventh grade. Most of his kinsmen had even less schooling and only about 2 per cent climbed beyond the 12th grade level.

John does his farm work with the help of one of his children. The other could best be described as a boarder. He lives at home and works in a nearby factory.

Two-thirds of John's fellow farm families have one or more members employed away from home.

Many work elsewhere

JOHN CANNOT BLAME his children for looking beyond the farm for employment. Even he works at contractual labor during the Winter months to supplement his income. Only 15 per cent of his people depend entirely on farm income for a living.

Many of his neighbors have given up farming completely. About half of them are working full time away from their farm homes now. This means more cash income for shorter hours, improvements to homes in low-tax areas and the convenience of gardens, cows, chickens and other supplements.

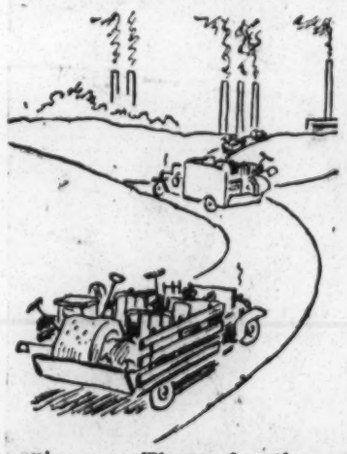
Cash from the farm alone is not enough for John. Half his friends have reached the same decision and are taking on outside jobs to help strengther the family budgets.

Two-thirds of them are averaging less than $3000 per year. Only 10 per cent claim incomes of more than $5000.

Still, those who combine farm and non-farm operations are definitely better off financially. Families working away from home are averaging up to $2883 per year. Those who live on the land average as little as $1195 in some areas, maybe $1900 in specialized sections of the state.

Health is failing

EXTRA CASH from outside jobs means more home con-



veniences. Three-fourths of the John A. Farmer clan homes need improvements.

John is not sure what will happen to him within the next few years. His health is beginning to fail him. Sixty per cent of his clansmen also complain of ailments.

Although he has mechanized to the extent of buying a tractor, the loss of home labor will affect John just as it will affect his clansmen.

To compensate for health and children's departure, he and his neighbors will reduce their row crops next year. They will plant about 10 per cent less cotton and corn.

They have hopes of adding some truck crops for quick sale. They would like to take on a few head of cattle, some hogs and maybe some chickens which can be adpated to one-man operations.

But low farm prices and labor problems are a major threat as they have always been. The resulst has been low capital assets, leading to a low credit rating which will not permit a major expansion.

JOHN A. FARMER is a prototype drawn from the beginning of a survey by the Alabama Extension Service, which is studying the state by counties.

At this pont, only two counties have been surveyed. But their similarity, despite distance, leads officials to believe the picture will be the same throughout the state.

Agricultural leaders hope to be able to help John and the many like him who have never been big farmers and who can never be big.

JOHN HAS WEATHERED other storms on the farm front. He has seen a half-million of the farm population leave for other jobs.

He has seen Alabama's fields turn from white to green as 80 per cent of the state's cotton acreage moved West.

His income has been higher on an average than his father's before him, but increased cost of living has taken the difference.

He would like to stay in the farming business and agricultural leaders want to help him stay. But he may have to make some major changes in his operation.

Whatever happens, he must get along with less labor, manage better and keep up with the recommendations of experts if he is to keep farming.

Big things are happening on Alabama farms

Important things are happening on Alabama farms—a drastic evolution that is altering a way of life for a major segment of the people of our state. The entire face of the agricultural economy of Alabama is changing.

What will the effects of this evolution be—good or bad?

How is it affecting the average farmer?

How is it affecting the state as a whole? What does the future hold for farming in Alabama?

Miss Trudy Cargile, The News' roving reporter, thoroughly surveys the present trends in agriculture from border to border and looks into the future in a series of six articles starting today and continuing Monday through Friday.

Continued Inspections Will Be Made To Check Compliance With Soil Bank

In order to check compliance with the Soil Bank contract, continuing visits will be made to farms where farmers have put land in the soil bank programs, D. G. Johnson, chairman of the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, has reminded farmers. He advises them to keep a close watch on the land they have in the Soil Bank and make sure that compliance with all terms of their contracts is complete.

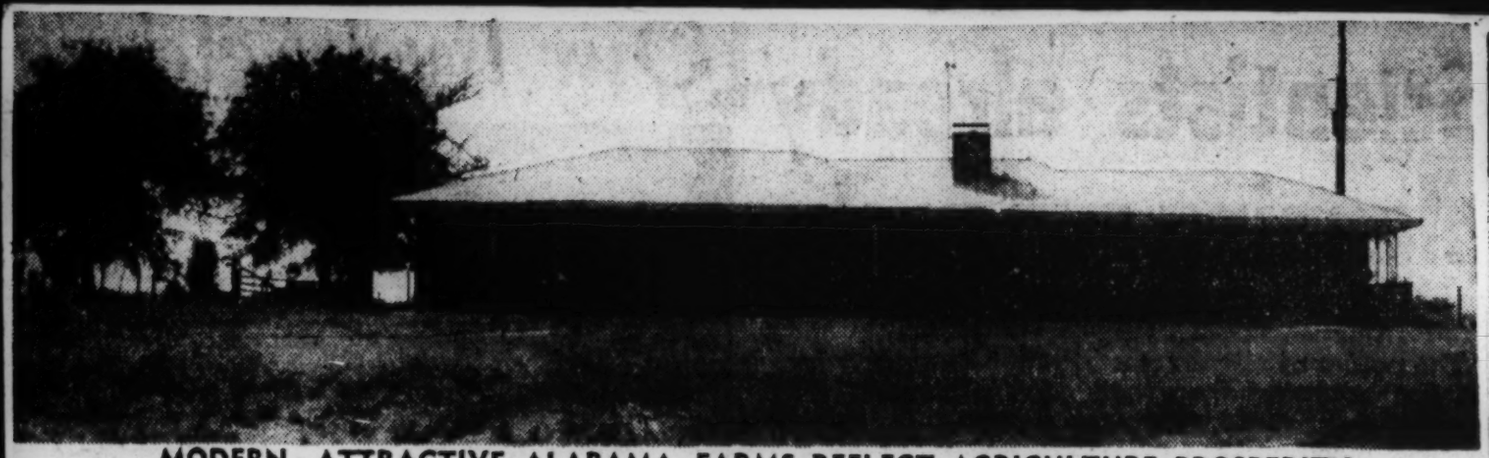
Mr. Johnson explains that the visits will be made to determine whether farmers are cropping or grazing any of the land placed in the Soil Bank programs. Checks will also be made to insure that proper cover crop and other Soil Bank practices are being carried out in accordance with the terms of the agreement or contract.

Since the Acreage Reserve agreements run until Dec. 31, inspections under that program will be made up to that time. The fact that the farmer has already received his Acreage Reserve payment does not relieve him of his obligation to comply with the terms of his 1958 agreement until it expires.

Inspections of Conservation Reserve land will be continuing throughout the life of the individual Conservation Reserve contract covering the farm—from 3 to 10 years.

The chairman points out that these inspections should not be confused with the earlier reviews made to determine whether the acreage designated was taken out of production, whether the farmer planted within his permitted acreage of Soil Bank base crops or whether he stayed within his allotments.

In fact, he said, the continuing inspections will not be started until the basic checks have been completed. Then random checks will be made throughout the county on a continuing basis. Visits will also be made by the County ASC Office to any farms where someone reports a possible violation, or where the community committeemen recommend a check.



MODERN, ATTRACTIVE ALABAMA FARMS REFLECT AGRICULTURE PROSPERITY
. . . Agricultural plants such as this will play important role in future

MANY ALABAMIANS HAVE MOVED AWAY TO STAKE NEW CLAIMS
In last 25 years, a half-million have left Alabama farms

NO. 1 FARMER — Foy Lee Callen, second from left, of Dothan, Ala., is showing three Extension Service officials a cup awarded him a few months ago as the "Farmer of the Year of Houston County." His youngest son, 10-year-old Jesse Frank, is showing off his 4-H pig trophy also. The Extension workers are County Agent Thomas J. Dumas, acting state leader C. A. Williams, center, and Mrs. Mildred M. Ward, home agent.

Sold 120 Head of Hogs This Year

Former Sharecropper Becomes Top Farmer

A former sharecropper, who saved for five years to buy his first mule, is now the No. 1 farmer in his county, reports C. A. Williams, acting state leader of Negro extension work in Alabama.

The farmer is Foy Lee Callen of Dothan, Ala., who was selected a few months ago as the "Farmer of the Year" of Houston County for raising and selling 100 head of meat-type hogs in 1957 and for having farmed his way up from 12 years of sharecropping to ownership of a 111-acre farm.

Mr. Callen got his first real upward start 18 years ago, says Mr. Williams, when he applied to the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for a loan to buy a 120-acre farm and build a home. After the loan was approved, the county farmers home supervisor sat down with Mr. Callen and his wife and helped them analyze the merits and faults of their past farming operations and make sound plans for the future.

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BY 1955, they were able to complete payment to the Government for their farm — 25 years ahead of time. Sale of timber and a nine-acre right of way helped them to further step up their payments.

This year, Mr. and Mrs. Callen put their entire 12-acre cotton allotment in the Soil Bank and turned their full attention to swine and feed crops. They expect to sell close to 120 head of hogs.

The Callens will probably go back into cotton next year, says Mr. Williams, but they will also continue developing pastures, growing grain, and pushing hogs as an important source of income.

Macon Farmers Urged To Utilize Reserve Acreage

One of the most important problems facing Macon County farmers between now and Jan 1 is the use of approximately 6,500 acres of land now in the Acreage Reserve part of the Soil Bank program, according to County Agent J. M. Bolling.

The Acreage Reserve program will not be in operation after next Dec. 31, Mr. Bolling said, and farmers could greatly increase their crop yields in 1959, and also provide feeding and grazing crops for livestock by planting this 6,500 acres to soil building and grazing crops this Fall.

Farmers are permitted to plant the land they now have in the Acreage Reserve Program in such crops and it can be grazed starting Jan. 1, if it is not needed for grazing, the crop can be turned and followed by row crops next Spring.

"This is a great opportunity for farmers to plant grazing and soil building crops since this land is now idle and there is nothing to prevent the farmers from establishing this land in such crops during September and October," Mr. Bolling said.

Some of the crops that could be planted this Fall are small grain, rye grass, vetches, blue lupine, or a mixture of these crops. The important thing is to try to establish as much of this land in such crops as possible this Fall, he said.

Livestock Is Number One In Aabama Agriculture

MONTGOMERY (AP)— Alabama cattlemen were told that beef has become a major source of farm income in Alabama but that marketing and production problems remain unsolved.

President Mortimer Jordan of Birmingham told the Alabama Cattlemen's Assn. at its annual meeting that 54 per cent of the total agricultural income in the state last year came from livestock.

"That was the first time in the history of the state that income from livestock was greater than all the other sources of agricultural income combined," Jordan said in his president's report.

"This new conception of agriculture—one of livestock rather than row crops—calls for a re-examination not only of our methods of production but of our agricultural philosophy in general."

Jordan said cattlemen must develop mode adequate marketing outlets and "secure for Alabama its rightful place in the eyes of the consuming public."

"We must improve our cattle to the point where the term 'Alabama beef' will be synomymous with 'quality beef' and 'quality beef' must not mean western beef," he continued. "This can be done sooner than we think."

Another speaker, G. R. (Jack) Milburn of Grassrange, Mont., told the Alabama cattlemen that livestock farmers who are alert to continuing changes have a prosperous future. Milburn, co-owner of the N Bar Ranch, is the newly elected president of the American National Cattlemen's Assn.

"Seldom has an industry been faced with so many changes in general production, feeding, marketing, processing and merchandizing of its product," Milburn said. "The cattle raiser or feeder must watch every trend.

"But he cannot forget that basic to it all is the vigilant and intelligent care of the cow—the constant source of new wealth.

here for Carter and Beyer would be a popular one indeed.

Action on the card, including two more matches besides the grudge tag fracas, will start at 7:45. Advance tickets may be bought at the Gold Star Cafe.

Farmers Quitting Land, Says Todd

Some 20,000 Alabama farm families will be driven off their farms if Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson's farm program is passed by Congress, according to Alabama Agriculture Commissioner A. W. Todd.

Todd, speaking before the Birmingham Exchange Club this week, said Benson wants to cut cotton acreage 25 per cent. This would in turn, Todd said, force Alabama farmers off their farms.

"There certainly is a farm depression now in Alabama," said Todd.

Since he became commissioner of Agriculture in 1954, Todd said, some 41,000 families have left Alabama farms—a total of about 320,000 people.

"We have lost their presence and their income," he said.

The loss of farm population will cost Alabama a congressman in 1960, he said. The same thing will reduce congressmen in North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina and Mississippi, he said

API Extension Service Issues New Handbook On Agriculture

AUBURN, Ala., Jan 23—A new edition of the Handbook of Alabama Agriculture was issued here today by the API Extension Service.

Extension Director P. O. Davis said the 420-page guide to better farming is on sale at every county agent's office in the state. A charge of one dollar per copy is made to cover cost of printing and distributing the book.

"This sixth edition is the most comprehensive we have ever printed," said avis. "It carries thousands of facts that farmers can use in improving their operations. Every phase of farming is thoroughly covered by the subject matter specialists who wrote the sections."

The first edition of the Handbook was published in 1940, primarily for county agents and other professional agricultural workers. The Handbook became so popular that the second edition, issued a year later, and succeding editions were offered to the public at cost. Since 1941 more than 120,000 copies have been bought by farmers and others.

Farm Situation In Good Shape Over Alabama

By BOB CHESNUTT

AUBURN, Ala., Feb. 1 — Even in this day of vast agricultural problems there are opportunities for better farming.

Taking the bright side of the farm situation, A. W. Jones of the API Extension Service said here today that Alabama stands a good chance to improve its agriculture during the next decade. Greater farm wealth, he added, can be created in this state primarily by marketing more products from livestock, poultry, and forests.

Jones did not try to minimize the farmer's present troubles—the disheartening cotton acreage situation, rising costs, and unsatisfactory prices of some products. However, he did say that despite these troubles, the farmer must study possible production changes that could bring him more money.

"Every farmer knows the old order in agriculture is passing," continued the marketing specialist. "Look at cotton. It was once the keystone of Alabama's economy. In 1930, the crop was produced on 3,6000,000 acres. But last year we planted only 735,000 acres. If the government would rent all the cotton land offered by farmers this year, the state planting would be far under 500,000 acres.

"While cotton acreage has dwindled, production of other items has gone up. For example, forests now cover two-thirds of the state and are increasing each year. Also on the rise are livestock, poultry, and other items.

"Looking at present trends and the prospects for the years ahead, I am sure Alabama's farm economy will depend heavily on a meat animal agriculture," said Jones. "I believe beef and dairy catte, hogs, sheep, poultry, and eggs are most promising as long-run enterprises."

Where does the individual farmer fit into this picture? Should he expand his hog unit? What about more broilers? Or milk? Jones believes that each farmer must determine what he can produce best and most economically on his land.

Jones gave the following brief run-down of farm products with the most promising future:

HOGS — The enterprise that looks best for the greatest number of Alabama farmers is hog production. Because hogs fit well into operations on farms of any size, many farmers going out of cotton certainly will want to study the possibility of pork production.

POULTRY — Alabama's fastest-growing farm business is poultry production. Broilers brought growers $65 million last year; the enterprise probably will double within five years. Egg production, now expanding rapidly, seems headed for a big future.

BEEF CATTLE — Next to forestry, beef production is the biggest user of land. Definitely, the trend is toward more and better beef cattle on thousands of farms.

DAIRYING — Dairying is one of Aabama's best farm enterprises. The best opportunity in dairying is in higher production of milk for manufacturing purposes.

HORTICULTURE — The production and marketing of vegetables and fruits is a fast and sometimes rough business for farmers, especially ex-cotton farmers. Nevertheless, these crops have a good future in many areas.

CASH GRAINS — Every year more farmers are growing corn, wheat, and soybeans as cash crops. Historically, corn has been used for livestock feed on the farm where grown. But today many farmers prefer to concentrate on producing grain for someone else to feed.

FORESTRY — Alabama is making big strides in marketing forest products. Even so, the future looks better than the recent past. Forests cover about 22 million acres of land, almost two-thirds of the state's total area.

Farm Supervisor Gaston LeBlanc, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Broussard and son, John.

Hard-Pressed Farmers Getting Help From U. S.

"WE WOULD lose our farm, if we didn't follow improved practices to get higher yields," says Clarence Broussard, champion cotton farmer of Lafayette Parish, La., who was helped in his upward climb by credit aid and counsel from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Seven years ago Mr. and Mrs. Broussard and their eight children were living in a three-room cabin on a water-logged 40-acre farm. They were having difficulty paying off the mortgage with a cotton yield of 230 pounds of lint to the acre and a corn yield of 12 bushels, says J. A. Lloyd, a Louisiana loan servicing representative of the Farmers Home Administration.

BUT TODAY there is a different story, Mr. Lloyd points out. The Broussards live in an attractive three-bedroom home with a half-acre landscaped lawn. They have replaced their mules with a tractor, put in a drainage system for their 40 acres and purchased 20 acres more. Their farm is diversified, their crops rotated, and their yields among the highest in the South.

Three years ago, with an average yield of 884 pounds per acre, the Broussards won the parish-wide cotton yield contest. They used their prize money to install a bathroom in their home.

The next year their cotton yield was up to 1,250 pounds of lint per acre, their corn stood at 80 bushels per acre, instead of 12, and their sweet potato output had risen from 110 to 180 bushels per acre.

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IN ADDITION, the Brussards sell around 40 dozen eggs a week, 30 hogs a year, four or five calves from their herd of 16 head of grade and purebred Angus, and their records show receipts of more than $1,000 a year from cayenne peppers.

But Mr. and Mrs. Broussard are not putting all their time into crops and livestock. They are devoting much of it to the rearing of their children. Two are already in college at Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., and at Tuskegee. The other six are headed in the same direction.

So well have the Broussards done with their crops and their children on their small farm that they were selected three years ago as "The Family of the Year" by Southern's school of agriculture. And last year they walked away from the college's livestock and poultry show with more than $200 in prize money for the Angus heifers and Jersey Black Giant chickens they exhibited.

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THE CHANGE for the Broussards began in 1951, says Mr. Lloyd, when the Farmers Home made them a loan to buy 20 acres more land, build a home and a barn and a poultry house, and fence and develop pastures. With the loan went help in planning and management. Before that, Mr. and Mrs. Broussard had been farming hit or miss for 17 years, trying to make out somehow when substantial credit aid was needed to put their farm on a sound footing.

Farmers Urged To Get Soil Tested

Farmer experience and research have proved that the right kind and amount of plant food must be supplied if cotton is to produce money-making yields.

County Agent, J. M. Bolling says that the wisest and most accurate way to determine fertilizer needed on any field is with a soil test. Such a test, he adds, may save the growers money, and certainly will allow him to spend his fertilizer dollars for plant food exactly suited to his crop and his soil.

With planting time fast approaching, farmers should send their soil samples to the API soil testing laboratory at Auburn just as soon as possible. The county agent said that he has the necessary mailing cartons and full instructions for farmers.

Farmers who do not have their soils tested should follow the general cotton fertilizer treatments proven best in Macon County.

On most soils cotton should be fertilized with 50 to 60 pounds of nitrogen, 50 to 60 pounds of phosphorus, and 35 to 60 pounds of potash. These amounts of plant foods can be supplied by applying 400 to 500 pounds of 4-12-12 per acre at or before planting, followed by 100 to 125 pounds of amonium nitrate or twice that amount of nitrate of soda

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County Negro 4-H Rally Will Be Held Saturday

About 800 Negro 4-H boys and girls will be in Talladega Saturday for the annual rally.

The 4-H'ers, their adult leaders and visitors will hold the four-hour program at Westside High School.

The morning will be devoted to business, music and speeches. Athletic events are planned in the afternoon.

Mr. L. R. Daly, retired home demonstration agent of Tuskegee, Macon County, will be the featured speaker.

Music by the Talladega County Training School band will begin the day's activities at 9:45 a.m.

Miss Louise Denson, president of the county 4-H council, will preside at the opening assembly, 10 a.m., at Westside Auditorium.

Group singing of "God Bless America" will be led by Bertha Nell Cunningham, song leader.

The song will be followed by the 4-H Club Pledge, given by Alexander Curry.

The Rev. Joseph Hayes, pastor of the Star of Zion Church, Talladega, will give the invocation.

Following a welcome by B. N. Mabra, principal, Miss Otha Fields and John L. Taylor will speak briefly.

Miss Fields is supervisor and Taylor is attendance supervisor of the county schools.

"My 4-H Club Expreience" will be given by Miss Louise Denson.

The guest speaker, Mrs. Daly, will be introduced by Miss M. L. Harris, Negro home demonstration agent.

After a brief talk by N. F. Nunnelley, superintendent of the county schools, awards will be presented by Mrs. Agrippa D. Bass, Negro district agent, Tuskegee Institute.

G. A. Peasant, county agent, will acknowledge visitors and make announcements.

At noon recreation activities will begin, the officials for the games being P. L. Brown and H. C. Pinkston of Westside School.

Miss Harris and Peasant invited parents, leaders and interested persons to attend the rally.

Music will be directed by Mrs. Lucile H. Lawler, county Training School.

Farmers To Vote On Wheat Quotas For Coming Year

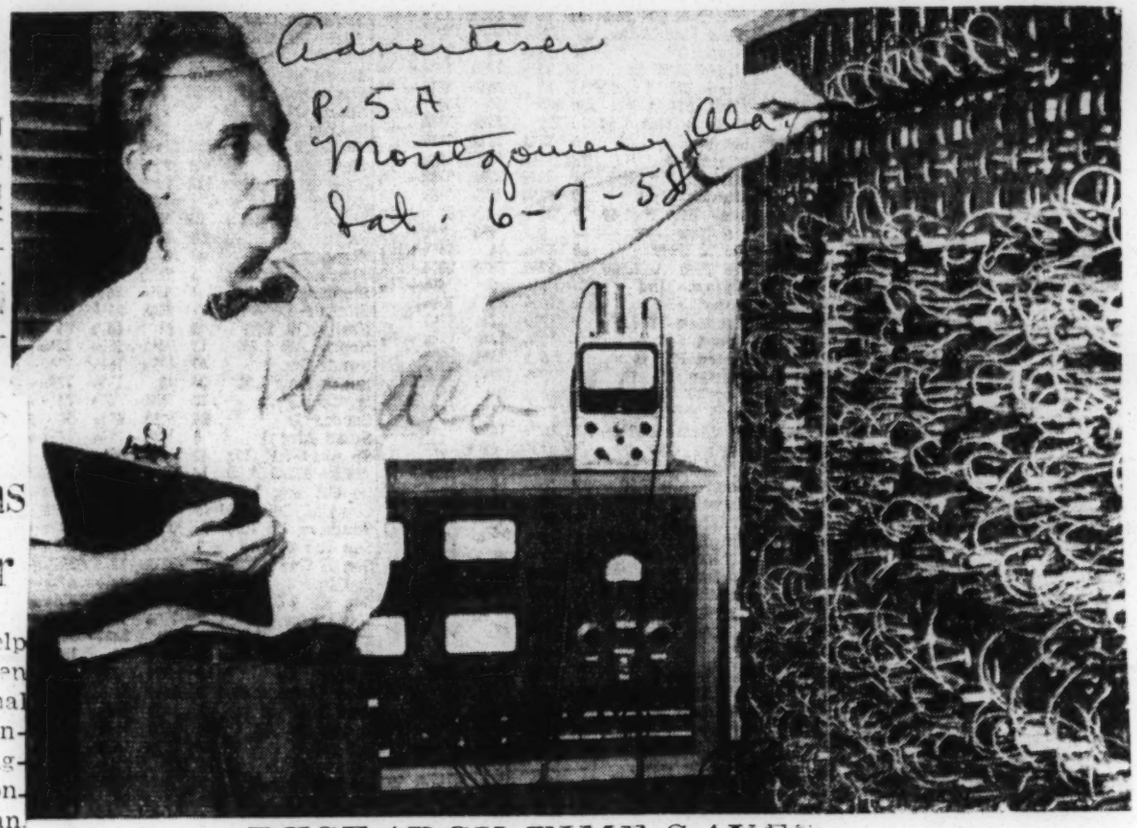
Macon wheat farmers will help make an important decision when they vote June 20 in the national wheat marketing quota referendum, D. G. Johnson, County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee chairman, said.

If at least two-thirds of the growers who vote in the referendum approve quotas for the 1959 crop, Mr. Johnson explained, the 1959 wheat program will include acreage allotments, marketing quotas (with penalities on excess wheat) and price supports at a minimum national average of $1.81 per bushel, or 75 per cent of parity.

If the quotas are not approved by at least two-thirds of those voting, there will be no marketing quotas or penalties, but allotments will remain in effect as a means of determining eligibility for price support. The price-support rate would be about $1.20 per bushel or 50 per cent of parity, as provided by law.

Chairman Johnson pointed out that wheat marketing quotas and acreage allotments operate only in commercial wheat states—those with allotments of more than 25,000 acres. Alabama has an allotment of 43,779 acres for the 1959 wheat crop.

Growers eligible to vote in the referendum are those who will be affected by the wheat quotas if they become effective. Thus, farmers who will have 15 acres or less of wheat for harvest as grain in 1959 are not eligible to cast ballots in the 1959 wheat quota referendum on June 20.



RESEARCH TIME SAVER

Dr. Herman Bouwer, associate agricultural engineer of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute's Agricultural Experiment Station, works at an electrical resistance network analogue which he constructed for solving problems in research on movement of water in soil. Bouwer says that the analogue solves in a matter of weeks problems which would take months or years to solve with paper and pencil.

Alabama Seeks Full Benefits For Wobbly Cotton Farmers

Legislative Committee to Ask More Relief Under Soil Bank

By FRED TAYLOR
Staff Writer, The Birmingham News
Special to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 15—An Alabama Legislative interim committee, which has gone to bat vigorously for the wobbly cotton farmers in this state, will meet here Monday to press another phase of the fight to obtain full soil bank payments for them.

Immediate goal of the state legislators, working in cooperation with members of Alabama's congressional delegation, is to assure "full participation" of this state's cotton growers in the soil bank acreage reserve program.

Having been hurt by prolonged rains that badly damaged last year's cotton crop produced on reduced acreage, only about half of 70,000 Alabama farmers who sought to sign agreements under the acreage reserve setup were able to participate. Thus, only $17 million was available of approximately $33 million necessary for full payments.

Seek Fund Transfer

The legislative group adopted a resolution at an earlier meeting this week at Montgomery urging prompt transfer of federal funds not used elsewhere in the cotton acreage program to aid Alabama planters.

This committee's long-range objective is to get U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson to "keep faith" with the farmers by supporting legislation that would prevent contemplated reduction in cotton acreage allotments for 1959 and subsequent years.

The committee's resolution pointed out that all 70,000 farmers had either signed agreements, or stood in line to sign them, for participation in the federal program and declared: "In our judgment all such Alabama cotton farmers have rightful claims for full participation in such acreage reserve program and to be paid in full following proof of such participation."

ALABAMA

The House-Senate Cotton Study Committee, headed by State Rep. Bob Gilchrist of Morgan County, in the rich Tennessee Valley cotton producing section, has already held hearings at Decatur and Montgomery. And the chairman has announced public meetings in all other congressional districts at the rate of one a week.

'Desperate Plight'

"We find that the Alabama cotton farmer is in a desperate plight," said State Sen. Albert Boutwell of Jefferson, a committee member. "Not only that, but ginners, supply dealers and others whose economy is tied up with cotton production also are in serious difficulty."

State Rep. Bob Kendall Jr. of Conecuh County, an Evergreen cotton dealer and farmer, is vice chairman of the committee which called on congress for additional appropriations "to make such payments in full to cotton growers in Alabama and other states where the situation is similar."

The resolution, which was offered by state Sen. Walter C. Givhan of Dallas County, farmer-business man, added that lack of funds to pay eligible farmers constituted "a grave injustice to many cotton growers."

Want Law Changed

The nine-member committee, which is charged with the task of studying the problems of the cotton industry in Alabama and the entire Cotton Belt, is expected to recommend changes in present laws that Chairman Gilchrist said "would be beneficial to our state, section and country."

Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture A. W. Todd also has been urging full participation of the state's cotton farmers in the soil bank program and assailing the Eisenhower-Benson farm program.

The legislative committee expressed appreciation to U. S. Sens. Lister Hill and John Sparkman and all other members of Alabama's congressional delegation "for the splendid work they have been doing toward getting such payments made in full."

Request for Action

The two senators and nine congressmen requested Secretary Benson to "take the necessary action to enable these farmers who acted in good faith to participate in the soil bank acreage reserve program for 1958. You have foreclosed this opportunity to thousands of farmers." Alabama, with only about 750,000 acres planted in cotton in 1957, produced approximately 550,000 bales. This compared with 750,000 bales produced in this state in 1956 and 1,045,000 bales in 1955 which was a banner year for cotton. The 1954 production, considerably hampered by weather conditions, amounted to 728,000 bales.

Farm leaders pointed out that cotton acreage has dwindled in Alabama at the rate of about 10,000 acres annually since the years of federal control, and even before that.

Farm Loss Study On In Alabama

Data May Lead To Possible Aid

County-by-county information as to bad weather damage and loss on Alabama farms is being collected at the Agricultural Stabilization Committee office in Montgomery, and a dollars-and-cents approximation of the total may be made Monday afternoon.

Earlier this week President Eisenhower ordered the Department of Agriculture and Civil Defense officials to make a survey of the Alabama damage, with a view toward possible Federal disaster relief for farmers of this state.

Since the snowstorms and bitter cold of last week, many Alabama figures—including several of the candidates for governor—have come out with their own estimates of the damage and demands that some Federal assistance be given farmers.

Generally, the estimates have run into the millions of dollars. Particularly hard hit were the poultry industry of North Alabama and the beef-raising industry over much of the state.

P. O. Davis, director of the Extension Service, said his agency and the ASC, which is a part of the Department of Agriculture, devised a questionnaire which was sent to the ASC in each county. ASC men, county agents and others are assisting in making county loss and damage tabulation.

The county tabulations are being sent to the ASC office in Montgomery to be correlated, and then they will be sent to the secretary of agriculture for possible recommendation toward some form of help for Alabama farmers.

Congress given facts—

Grim Alabama group tells of farmers' plight

BY DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON, March 8—Ten grim-faced Alabama state legislators made a pilgrimage to Washington this week to lay before Congress the life-or-death situation confronting cotton farmers in the Southeast.

The picture was a solemn one summed up in the words of a cotton farmer, E. F. Mauldin of Leighton, Ala., now serving as a consultant to the state legislators.

"Our farmers are more demoralized than ever before," Mauldin told the House agriculture committee. "They find farm labor gone, their tenants vanished or barely existing, their plows rusting, their tractors down, their mules converted to dog meat, their fields vacated and lying idle, their rural communities disappearing, and their country homes, churches, and schools standing vacant like corroded monuments to haunt the memory of what once was a cherished and respected way

PEARSON

of life."

The causes are low prices and a gigantic 35 per cent slash, since 1953, in the number of acres allowed to be planted in cotton under Secretary Benson's "flexible" support system. For, as the nation's cotton surplus mounts, the acres planted to cotton are cut.

MEANWHILE, the Southeast —Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North and South Carolina—has borne the brunt of the decline, while the acreage of such western states as California, Arizona and New Mexico has fared proportionately better.

Individuals don't count

THIS IS BECAUSE a state's share of the national cotton acreage is based upon its average acreage in the preceding five years. And with poor cotton farmers in the Southeast abandoning the soil for city jobs, Alabama's allotment has decreased, which has penalized farmers remaining on the soil. For, when their neighbor quits cotton farming, other farmers get their acreage cuts, so that some individual allotments have been cut 70 per cent since 1953 in contrast to the national acreage decrease of only 35 per cent.

The trouble, says Mauldin, i sthat Benson's plan reckons in terms of states and counties. The fate of the individual farmer is crassly ignored.

Result: In Alabama 125,000 farmers have signed up with the state employment service for off-farm jobs. One tractor dealer reports he sold 60 tractors in 1955, only 32 in 1956, and just 14 in 1957.

Most of the 14 he sold in 1957 had to be repossessed when farmers couldn't meet their payments.

Ginners, bankers, crushers, farm laborers, fertilizer manufacturers, warehousemen, and cotton merchants are all affected.

City jobs don't help

ACCORDING to Maynard Layman, farm editor of the Decatur Daily, the solution is not in moving farmers off the land. What Alabama needs, he says, is more marginal farmers, not fewer. He points out that it doesn't solve anything for farmers to sell out and move to the city. There they merely add to unemployment rolls and create all kinds of social problems. Moreover, in many cases it's just plain impossible for a man who has been a farmer all his life to make the shift to city life at the age of 45 or 50.

"A pestilence has been visited upon the land of cotton," farmer Mauldin told the House committee. He proposed these solutions:

1—AN INCREASE in cotton-acreage allotments, not across the board by state, but just enough to guarantee every farmer his historic share of the nation's production.

2—A Brannan Plan for cotton, whereby all American cotton would be sold without price supports at the normal level. By letting the price seek its own level, cotton would better compete with nylon, dacron, and other synthetics. Instead of price supports, farmers would receive direct production payments to the extent necessary to raise their income to parity with industrial workers.

NOTE — THE SOIL BANK hasn't helped. A total of 70,000 Alabama farmers were frozen out of the soil bank by insufficient soil bank funds, many of them after they had sold their implements. Even if Congress appropriates more soil bank funds, it won't help the thousands of farm laborers and tenant farmers whose jobs disappear whenever an acre of land goes into the soil bank.—(c).

NEW SOIL BANK FUNDS READY FOR ALABAMA

$15,323,600 Made Available To Cotton Farmers

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 27.—(AP)—An additional $15,323,600 was made available today for Alabama cotton farmers who have applied for Soil Bank payments but lost out because of an earlier shortage of funds.

Chairman B. L. Collins of the State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee said the supplemental funds will provide payments to an estimated 31,000 cotton farmers in addition to the 31,000 already approved this year.

Mr. Collins also said another $2,613,100 was made available for corn farmers in 17 commercial corn-producing counties, and an extra $21,000 is provided for tobacco growers.

He said the money will be used to pay farmers who had signed up for Soil Bank payments before the Feb. 20 deadline on cotton and corn and the March 7 time limit for tobacco.

Several thousand farmers filed their applications in time to qualify for Soil Bank acreage agreements but too late to get part of the funds first allotted.

Cotton payments are made in all counties, but corn farmers are eligible only in the following commercial producing counties:

Baldwin, Cherokee, Coffee, Conecuh, Covington, Dale, DeKalb, Escambia, Etowah, Geneva, Houston, Jackson, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, Monroe and Morgan.

PLANNERS—Dothan, Ala., county agents and vocational agriculture teachers in Southeast Alabama planned the annual Wiregrass Hog Show and Sale. The group reported over 300 hogs for the event.

Assiting the field workers (seated at left) were Dr. F. T. McQueen, teacher trainer, Department of Vocational Education, T. R. Agnew, state 4-H Club agent, and C. A. Williams, acting state leader for Negro extension work, al of Tuskegee Institute.

Arthur Swain Is Successful Ala. Cotton, Dairy Farmer

HOME GROWN FOOD — Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Swain of Uniontown, Ala., are not spending their cotton and dairy money for store-bought groceries. Their upright freezer is full of home-grown meats, fruits and vegatables. Looking at their supply are W. B. Hill, state leader of Negro extension work in Alabama, and Miss Ollie Mae Raybon, the Swain's home agent. Hill is now working on his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin. — USDA Photo.

SMALL DAIRY HERD PAYS OFF — Arthur Swain, center, of Uniontown, Ala., who used to count mainly on cotton, now sells 30 gallons of milk a day from his small dairy herd. This brings him more than $100 every two weeks. The keys to his success in dairying are high producing cows and good pastures which keep his feed cost down. He is discussing the value of Dallis grass with his county agent, Lawrence C. Johnson, left; and Acting State Extension leader C. A. Williams. — U. S. D. A. Photo.

in Alabama reports that Mr. and Mrs. Swain have proved it doesn't take a large herd and a lot of acres to make a go of dairying.

With less than 30 acres in improved pastures and only eight of their 14 grade and purebred Jerseys and Guernseys fresh at a time, they produce 30 to 35 gallons of milk a day which bring them more than $100 every two weeks year-round.

GROW OWN GRAIN

And only a small part of the returns goes for feed. The Swains grow their own grain for making protein concentrates, and their own hay to supplement year-round grazing in their improved pastures.

The Swains eat at home, too. Their meals come right out of their garden, or their home freezer and home-stocked pantry. Their home agent, Miss Ollie Mae Raybon, keeps them abreast of the latest methods of canning and of preparing foods for freezing.

"Very seldom do we have to go to the grocery store," says Mrs. Swain, "and then it's only to buy some flour and sugar and a little coffee."

Many low-income one-crop farmers, who are afraid to expand into livestock enterprises because they think their farms are too small, may find the answer to their problem in the achievement of Arthur Swain, a highly successful cotton and dairy farmer of Uniontown, Ala., C. A. Williams, acting state leader of Negro extension work

The family likes dairying because it means money coming in twice a month which enables them to plan and budget better. "We don't have time to wait on just one crop that pays off only once a year," says Mr. Swain.

Mr. and Mrs. Swain began selling milk in 1935 when a cheese plant moved into the county. They had had cows all along to provide plenty of milk for their nine children, so they merely began placing the surplus — about five gallons — by the side of the road every day for the cheese factory route man to pick up.

Money from milk and cotton plus that from the sale of turkeys their extension agent, Lawrence C. Johnson, had started them raising enabled the Swains to buy an 80-acre farm in 1942, ending 24 years of tenant and sharecropper farming.

They are still selling grade B milk to the cheese plant, but instead of only five gallons, they are now placing 30 by the side of the road every day. "Mr. and Mrs. Swain are the most consistent milk shippers in the area," says Mr. Williams.

Their increased production didn't come all at once, the acting state leader explains. It came gradually as the agent helped the family to improve their herd and pastures.

DEVELOPS GRASS

In developing 25 acres of improved pastures of Dallis grass, lespedeza, White Dutch and crimson clover a few years ago, the Swains applied 70 tons of lime over a two year period and spread adequate amounts of superphosphate and potash.

Improved practices also have been applied on their cotton and corn land to increase yields. Today, although their cotton acreage allotment has been reduced from seven to five acres, they are producing more cotton than ever before. And their corn yield has risen from 15 to 40 bushels per acre.

As for the future, the Swains want a few more good cows and a milking parlor so they can begin selling grade A and get a better price.

Cotton Situation Bad, Farmers Say

Post Herald
Birm, Ala
Tues. 2-4-58

Worse Off Than In Great Depression, Alabamians Tell State Study Committee

BY HALE SCARBROUGH
Post-Herald State Editor

DECATUR, Feb. 3—The men who ought to be the real experts on the subject—since they're trying to make a living out of it—spoke their piece on Alabama's cotton situation here today. And, in their opinion, it's bad.

In fact, several men who farm in this North Alabama area told members of the Alabama Legislative Cotton Study Committee they're worse off now than they were in the Depression '30s.

Legislators making up the committee are gathering eyewitness accounts of what Federal farm policies of the past few years have done to the cotton grower of this state, and hope to get Congress this session to revise policies which have slashed Alabama cotton acreage in half and driven farmers by the thousand from the land.

The committee is headed by Rep. Bob Gilchrist of Morgan County. Rep. Gilchrist said he plans to hold "grass-roots" hearings in each congressional district and "to write a book" on the effects of such Federal policies as acreage cuts, low support prices for cotton and the Soil Bank.

GILCHRIST

About 20 cotton men told their stories today, including farmers, ginners, warehousemen and a commission buyer.

All declared that Alabama, under Federal restriction, is not being allowed to raise enough cotton to let its cotton farmers make a living or to keep farm-raised children on the land.

Several told how their cotton acreage had been slashed in the past few years.

One, Earl C. Cobb, 74, of Hartselle, may have gotten himself a trip to Washington with his testimony.

"I planted 50 acres of cotton in 1948," Mr. Cobb said. "In 1952 they cut me to 13.7 acres. A couple of years ago they're trying to get rid of the surplus, so I didn't plant any. Then they cut me to two acres."

Cobb said he figured he was co-operating in helping reduce the cotton surplus and the Federal Government repaid him by reducing his allotment to where he can't make a living. "They're penalizing me $800 or $900 a year," he said. "Somebody down the line gave me a dirty deal."

Cobb was asked if he would go to Washington to tell his story to agricultural committees in Congress. He said he would, but that he would have to ask his doctor if he could fly.

Post-Herald
Tues 2-4-58

Several others had similar stories:

Chris White, Princeville—His first cotton allotment was 90 acres. For 1958, it is 48.2 acres.

Carl Hough, Lacey Spring—A few years ago he had four or five tenant families on his 625-acre farm. They've all gone, perhaps because there is not enough cotton growing to support them.

John Lile, Trinity—Farms 300 acres, and at one time had 200 acres of cotton. "We don't have the labor, now. Negroes we raised on the place are working in town."

Sam Lile, Trinity — "I've farmed 40 years, and this is the hardest time I've ever seen." Six of 10 tenant houses on his place are vacant.

Frank Martin, Danville Rt. 2—"I'm a farmer by birth, trade and ambition." His allotment in 1954 was 166.6 acres; for 1958 it is 80.3 acres.

Jack Tankersley, Cullman County—In 1953 he and his father planted 100 acres of cotton on their own and rented land. Now he has an allotment of 8.1 acres and his father, Judge Tankersley, has 8.5 acres.

Tankersley said he put his extra land into corn, and is grossing $42 an acre off that, compared to $125 or more an acre he could be grossing off cotton.

Judge Tankersley brought out what Alabama's dwindling cotton acreage is doing to the farm family. "I raised seven daughters and three sons. They've all gone somewhere else except Jack. We used to pick as many as 30 bales of cotton with family labor. Last year I put my cotton land in the soil bank and rented the rest."

Not a single person of those testifying today had a kind word to say about the soil bank program, not even those who put cotton land into it.

Frank Martin declared that "it's wrong in principle, to pay people for doing nothing." Ed Mauldin of Leighton called soil bank payments "degrading hush money."

Likewise, none offered to back up a declaration by A. W. Todd, commissioner of agriculture, that the Federal government appropriate another $20 million to fill out the soil bank program in Alabama.

Virtually all said they would rather have no cotton acreage controls at all, and a fair policy of support prices, possibly on a bale-limitation basis, than the present system of controls.

West will profit—

Soil Bank has forced most small cotton farmers out, says Englehardt

BY HUGH W. SPARROW
News staff writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 1— The Eisenhower administration cotton control program has just about put all the small cotton farmers of Alabama out of business and now they are trying to do the same thing to the bigger cotton growers.

News Pst
Birm, Ala
Sun 2-1-58

That is the way one of Alabama's largest cotton producers—Sam Engelhardt of Shorter—sizes up the farm crisis in Alabama, which already has reduced cotton production to about 40 per cent of normal.

13th of a series

"The small farmer," said Engelhardt, who represents Macon County in the Alabama Senate, "may think he is getting something for nothing when he surrenders his acreage to the Soil Bank. But when it's all over he hasn't a damn thing!"

SEN. ENGELHARDT added, with a note of grimness in his voice, that if things go on much more as they have the last two or three years the South no longer will be the storied "land of cotton and good times not forgotten."

"Cotton," he insisted, "will be produced only in the West."

Sen. Engelhardt and his able farm manager, Conyers Thompson, were asked how the present farm program, supposedly intended to protect agriculture, had affected his 100 per cent mechanized farm in Macon County.

If not identical, the story told was closely similar to what Alabama farmers—large and small—from one end of the state to the other, have been saying about the results of the farm program.

IT WAS, once again, the story of a steadily shrinking area for cotton, due to a program which seems to stress acreage reduction over increased production, and to a rapidly deteriorating agricultural system which has been a major factor in the state's economy more than a century.

The quota system was first established in 1934, Engelhardt said, but only since the Korean War has the real pinch set in. Added to the problem has been fuller use of synthetic fibers.

Prior to the end of the Korean war, according to Engelhardt, 1500 of his 4000 acres were regularly planted in cotton. Now, he said, his farm is down to 320 cotton acres.

STRICTLY SPEAKING, Engelhardt explained, the law does not say that if a farmer surrenders his acreage to the Soil Bank that land is out of use from then on for cotton. But the Soil Bank's operations have that effect.

"After all," Engelhardt declared, "there's nothing in the law which says they cannot cut your acreage. Usually that is exactly what is done. The U. S. Department of Agriculture determines the total amount of acreage for the entire country and sets the amount of acreage for each cotton producing state.

"It usually follows that states having more acreage out of cotton production are the ones which are given the greatest reductions the following year."

The surrender of acreage to the bank by small cotton producers and the resultant retirement of most of the small farmers from the land, according to Engelhardt, has forced greater reductions in cotton acreage for his farm.

YEAR AFTER YEAR, he said, his plantation had produced the full amount of cotton allotted to him. Yet, through no fault of his own, his acreage has been cut and cut until there is now scarcely enough acreage left to operate profitably and at the same time maintain the necessary help.

Engelhardt explained how it often happens that after a farmer surrenders his land to Soil Bank he soon stops farming altogether.

If he surrenders his acreage he automatically loses his farm help. So, even though he wanted to return to cotton production a year later, he would not have the labor to help him.

Engelhardt cited the case of a farmer in his area who had such an experience. He surrendered about 80 acres to the Soil Bank. With no land to till, he decided to let his farm workers go. The following year, with no help available, he had to quit farming.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS Engelhardt said, prove anew that the Soil Bank is a device intended largely to affect the small farms. Until this year, he explained, a farmer with sufficient acreage to surrender could get as much as $25,000 from the Soil Bank. This year the maximum has been reduced to $3000.

Of the relatively few small farmers still producing cotton, he said, it should be only a matter of time before they, too, toss in the sponge.

"After all," he said, "how can farmers with quotas of only three acres live on that?"

LAST YEAR he planted 150 acres in wheat but soon learned there were quotas on wheat as well as on cotton, the senator added. In some Alabama counties he said they have quotas on corn.

While the acreage available for cotton production is steadily diminishing, production costs are going up and up.

"Recently I bought a new tractor," Engelhardt said. "It cost me $4500. Three years ago the same tractor cost me $3000. On our place we figure we simply cannot make cotton pay any more. If we can't produce two bales to the acre. That's why we are going to irrigate."

Engelhardt pointed to another recent development from Washington which he said is working to the detriment of Alabama cotton producers.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has instituted a system of very rigid grading by department agents. They look more closely than ever for spots and appear all too eager to find them. If spots are found they immediately downgrade the cotton from 34 cents to 30 cents or less. Usually it means a cut of about $20 a bale.

"LOTS OF FARMERS think that sort of thing is part of a conspiracy to drive folks out of the cotton business," he said.

"Another thing, if you don't meet a certain specification—it is increasingly difficult for farmers to advance 'furnishings' to their tenants."

you another 10 per cent.

"The situation is such that it's called a 'mike'—they cut

COTTON AID BILL

Let Them Know

Recent statements by the always-alert Alabama Extension Service point up the fact that Alabama's unhappy cotton farmers are caught on the horns of a dilemma and that real release can come only if somebody in the U. S. Department of Agriculture displays an energy, common-sense and awareness tragically lacking thus far.

The problem is simply this:

If cotton farmers put off planting under the hope or the expectation that Congress will provide more millions for the soil bank and thus pay them for not planting, they may awaken to reality too late.

Extension Director P. O. Davis and Associate Director James Lawrence are being quoted as advising all farmers to go ahead with their planting plans.

Pointing out that the acreage reduction applications filed or prepared for filing amount to 588,000 acres, or 60 per cent of the total allocated acreage, Mr. Lawrence had this to say:

"Last week the State ASC Acreage Committee announced to its county committees that they had sufficient funds to retire about 260,000 acres of cotton to the acreage reserve.

"I have my doubts about Congress appropriating more money or the U. S. Department of Agriculture finding additional funds for this acreage reserve program in 1958."

But, Mr. Lawrence said, he expects the news for several weeks to be filled with stories of efforts to bring about an increase, a development calculated to raise false hopes in the breast of many farmers.

Then comes advice to plant as usual along with a flat prediction from Mr. Davis that farmers who do plant this year will net more per acre than the soil bank allotment.

"County agents—the men who have been so important in helping farmers improve cotton production over the years—will be of extra service this year," Mr. Davis promised.

"They have the latest research information on all phases of production. They have years of experience in carrying on effective information programs. They are ready and eager to help every farmer."

The decision to plant or not to plant must be made by the individual farmer with the help of the best advice he can get. Usually Extension Service advice is sound, but we do not presume to recommend a course of action.

But the farmer does need imperatively to know and to know immediately as he plans his Summer's work.

3 Agents Staff Negro Extension Department

The Negro extension service department in the new courthouse is stalled by three agents, Annie Mae Boynton, R. F. Jones and Addre Bryant.

Annie Mae Boynton, home agent, is one of the county's veteran employes, having approximately 30 years of continuous service.

R. F. Jones, farm agent, since 1957, served before that time as assistant farm agent, being the first to hold this position when it was created in 1954. He was elevated to farm agent when J. T. Alexander retired.

When Jones became farm agent, Bryant was employed as assistant agent and director of 4-H Club work.

All three members of the staff came to their positions well prepared for the work.

Jones, a native of Union Springs, was educated in the public schools of that town, at Snow Hill Institute in Wilcox County, and at Tuskegee Institute, where he received his degree in agricultural economics in 1949.

His first position was county agent in Elmore County, where he took over his duties Aug. 1, 1949. He resigned on Aug. 15, 1952 to accept a position with the Point-Four Program and was assigned to Derna, Libya, in Africa.

There he rendered technical assistance in health, education, natural resources and agriculture. He activated the extension program at Derna and worked with it for two years. His duties completed there, he returned to the States and accepted the assistant county agent's position in Montgomery County.

The assistant's position was created when the Farm and Home Development program was started and it became necessary to have someone do the 4-H Club work while the agent supervised the Farm and Home Development [illegible]

[illegible] Montgomery, Ala.

At present there are 28 families on this program and 19 active 4-H Clubs.

Annie Mae Boynton is a native of Georgia who was trained for home agent's work at Tuskegee and immeditely after her graduation, she joined the extension service and came to Montgomery County as home agent in 1928. Through her many years of work with the Negro farm women of this county, she has endeared herself to them and they are enthusiastic in their praise of their club work director.

At present, she has eight home demonstration clubs, but gives much other assistance to farm women through individual conferences about their particular problems.

The 4-H Clubs for boys and girls are combined and meet at the schools.

Addre Bryant is a native of Tuscaloosa, and he is also a graduate of Tuskegee Institute.

The extension service office was originally at State Teachers College but was moved in the 1920's to North Lawrence Street and remained there until the new courthouse was finished.

AT LEADERSHIP TRAINING MEETING

Dr. Anne E. Spann, and Miss Floy L. Britt, district home demonstration agent, officers of the County Council of Home Demonstration clubs and club presidents representing ten communities in Duval County are shown at the Leadership Training meeting held in the Library of Edward Waters College. The theme was "The Role of a Leader." The highlight of the event in observance of National Home Demonstration Week was the address "Leaders in a Changing World" by Dr. Spann, associate dean of Agriculture and Home Economics at Florida A and M. Consultants for the group discussions were Mrs. Jessie M. Fears, Dr. Spann, Miss Britt, Mrs. Sara S. Stewart, Mrs. Beulah L. McClellan, Uriah Portee and Mrs. Ethel M. Powell. Other program participants were the Rev. J. I. King, Dr. W. B. Stewart, Reid E. Jackson, Dr. H. James Greene and students of the Home Economics Department, Edward Waters College. Mrs. Oreatha Floyd, council president, presided.

MRS. CLEO WALKER NEW DISTRICT AGENT — Mrs. Cleo S. Walker of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., has succeeded Mrs. Agrippa D. Bass, who retired, as district agent in extension work for North Alabama.

She holds both the B.S. and Master of Science degrees in home economics from Tuskegee Institute. Mrs. Walker has also done one year of graduate work toward the doctorate degree at Cornell University.

Mrs. Walker is the mother of two children.

COUNTY AGENTS OF THE YEAR were presented citations recently at Tennessee A. and I. State University, Nashville, Tenn., by the National Negro County Agricultural Agents Association during its annual convention dinner. The honorees were selected by fellow agents in their respective states. Left to right: H. L. Hubbard, Angleton, Tex., standing for K. K. Daingerfield, Seguin, Tex.; C. D. Ashley, Bristow, Okla.; Leon Robinson, Opelousas, La.; B. D. Harrison, association president, Shreveport, La.; Dr. Walter S. Davis, president of th versity; J. R. Branham, Clarksville, Clarence Williams, McIntosh, Ga., standir J. B. Stevens, Quitman, Ga.; I. D. Thom Cleveland, Miss.; R. J. Thurston, Tusk Ala.; and P. H. Stone of the Federal Ext sion Service in Washington, who presented the citations. Seated are: M. E. McCoy, association secretary, Pine Bluff, Ark.; and D. P. Lilly, toastmaster, Okmulgee, Okla. (USDA Photo)

1b 1958

EXTENSION SERVICE

9 Negro Extension Workers In Rural Development Program

Nine Negro Extension Service workers have been assigned to help push the Rural Development Program in four states.

Six of the workers are giving special assistance to farm operators in pilot counties, and three are working with rural homemakers. Those aiding farmers with their crops and livestock are: C. A. Faulks, Meriwether County, Ga.; A. C. Reeves, Covington County, Miss.; C. F. Wade, Holmes County, Miss.; W. H. McIver, Anson County, N. C.; E. Dowdy, Chesterfield County, S. C., and M. B. Jackson, Berkeley County, S. C.

HOME AGENTS

The home demonstration agents who are working with rural homemakers are: Miss Mabel R. Newell, Covington County, Miss.; Mrs. J. A. Rumph, Holmes County, Miss., and Mrs. Altamese Pough, Berkeley, S. C.

In Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson's recent third annual report to the President on the Rural Development Program, he pointed out that increased efforts are being made to assist small farmers. "Too often in the past," he said, "many of our programs have either bypassed the small farmer or have not reached effectively those farm families with small and poor acreage, and little of the essential resources of modern farming."

The report gives a number of examples of how the Rural Development Program committees are helping rural people to increase their income. In one Georgia county the committee sponsored a campaign to inform older farmers of the social security program. As a result 20 eligible farm people have applied and are now receiving social security benefits. And in Holmes County, Miss., 200 farmers are in dairying for the first time.

LOW INCOME

The low-income farm people of Anson County, N. C., are making dresses and selling them through a local retail outlet. Eight women in the county made 100 dresses for sale last year.

Chesterfield County, S. C., farm people have increased their income by going into poultry and egg production. Within the past 18 months the number of layers in the county has increased from 8,000 to 100,000

A total of 63 pilot or demonstration counties and nine areas in 30 states and Puerto Rico are participating in the Rural Development Program.

In seven states, land-grant colleges in close cooperation with local citizen leaders and other agencies are widening the Rural Development Program to include new counties and rural towns, according to the Secretary's report. These states are Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Texas. Oklahoma State University also released a report recommending an area development program covering a group of eastern rural counties.

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Agriculture Department Plans To Help Co-Ops

WASHINGTON— (INS) — The Agriculture Department is developing a program to help farmers cooperatives to meet the [illegible] of agricultural integration.

After a slow start in many areas, the cooperatives are stepping more and more into integrated operations under which the organization supplies farmers with credit and production materials and guarantees a market for the crops or products produced.

This kind of tie-up type is widespread in the broiler industry and may soon enter pork and beef production. It is one of the most hotly debated developments in agriculture today.

Critics of the trend claim that integration may put a chicken grower in deep debt to the feed company that supplies the money, chicks and mash. In practice, the opponents say, the farmer might as well be a hired hand.

STEP UP EFFICIENCY

Supporters of integrated farming —including some top economists— say it is the only way U. S. agriculture can step up its efficiency. They note that the steady supply of broilers which results from integration has leveled out the stomach-turning cycle of poultry production that alternated a few years ago.

Joseph G. Knapp, administrator of the Farmers Cooperative Service of the Agriculture Department, says there is no reason why farmers cannot work out an integrated operation through their cooperatives "as well as others can do it for them— and get advantages for themselves by so doing."

Several cooperatives, particularly in New England and on the West Coast, have already begun to supply members with young fowl, feed and credit as well as processing and marketing services.

Cooperative Service officials note that integration is nearly universal for the cooperatives [illegible] specializing in the fruit and vegetable industry that it often goes unnoticed as an example of integrated

No Slump Here

Farmers Harvest Money by Crate

By NIXON SMILEY
Herald Farm and Garden Editor

Unless they've read about it somewhere, most of Florida's farmers and citrus growers don't know a thing about a reported economic slump.

It's true that many farmers have been hurt, some of them badly. But when the economic artist paints the overall picture, with charts and graphs, it's going to look right pretty.

Prices have never been better. Citrus income, despite last winter's freeze, will hit a record figure.

And vegetable income won't miss the record far. Some vegetable growers are harvesting folding money by the crate. And the big income harvest won't be over for several weeks.

Unfortunately, there is a seamy side. Some farm communities have been badly hurt because of slack business. With fewer things to harvest, fewer laborers have been needed, and there was less money to spend for food, clothing and other things.

But individual farmers who have had something to sell have done so well that many of them will end the season with larger profits than they have enjoyed in several years.

In general, this is the picture throughout much of the farming sections of South Florida. Lake Okeechobee area celery growers are getting the best price in history for their crop — around $5.50 a crate, and the price has remained high for weeks.

Radish growers have done so well that one observer said it looks like they "had a license to steal." (A radish crop can be made in three weeks, and a shortage of salad making material has resulted in a big demand for this quick-growing vegetable.)

Even when quality was poor, farmers have been able to get good prices. This has been especially true of tomatoes, whose volume was reduced by the Feb. 5 freeze from around 25,000 acres to fewer than 5,000 acres.

Approaching maturity now in South Florida are some 25,000 acres of sweet corn, of which 20,000 acres are in the rich soil of the Lake Okeechobee area. Prices now are good, but the people who see danger in over-production have their fingers crossed.

Once the corn begins rolling to market by the train load — and it will by the end of the first week in May — prices could tumble. Those who make the big money on corn will get to market "first with the most and the best."

A check with farm supply people revealed a great amount of optimism compared with a few weeks ago. With growers in better position to pay their bills, the farm supply people are looking forward to a normal season beginning next fall.

"And those who fall by the wayside, well, there'll be somebody else to take their places," said one observer.

"Shucks," he added, "I'm already beginning to worry about over-production next season.

"Did you know that farmers would have been in a lot of trouble this year even if we hadn't had freezes and floods? It would have been our biggest season in history, production-wise. And it might have been our biggest fiasco finapcial-wise."

What about the citrus picture for next year?

Florida Keeps Growing

Dade Soil Yields Rich Bean Crops

Once underemployed farmer is now busy

WASHINGTON — A former underemployed Florida colored farmer is now almost overemployed, says District Agent J. A. Gresham of the Florida Extension Service.

The farmer is Tylear Sanders Jr., of Quincy, who now sells annually more than $15,000 worth of shade - grown tobacco for cigar manufacture. 40 to 50 head of beef cattle, 25 to 30 hogs, a dozen tons of peanuts, and a sizeable quantity of vegetables. In addition, he runs a grocery store and a gasoline filling station on the side.

Mr. Sanders' successful method of combining farming with off - farm enterprises are in line with the objectives of the Rural Development Program. Through it, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has joined with other agencies to help raise the levels of living of farm people by encouraging a balance of agriculture with industrial and business development.

This busy farmer and merchant once had plenty of time on his hands; that was back in the middle of the depression when he and Mrs. Sanders were married. "At that time I was farming eight acres my father had given me, and running a little store which had less than $100 worth of stock on the shelves," says Mr. Sanders.

Then one day a neighbor walked into their store and offered to sell them 40 acres at $5 an acre. They talked it over, bought the land. That was the beginning of their rise. Little by little, they have added a few acres by saving and careful management. Now they own 168 acres and are managing 213 for his father who has retired.

"The farm and store keep us busy," says Mr. Sanders, "but we like it that way. We are building for our children, and we hope they will take over one day."

4-H'er visiting in Brazil finds farm family charming

MOUNT HOLLY, Va. — Miss [illegible] Smith, 20-year-old 4-H'er from this city now visiting as a guest of an international Farm Youth Exchange delegate, has reported on her stay with one farm family a half hour's drive from Rio de Janeiro.

The 4-H'er says the Brazilian [illegible] visiting operates a cattle and poultry farm. They have [illegible] head of Brahma cattle and 50,000 Leghorn chickens. They sell around 13,500 eggs a day. In addition, they market baby chicks weekly from their [illegible] capacity incubator.

[illegible], a graduate of Virginia State College, says she spends much of her time helping the host mother with homemaking chores.

Before her return to the United States in April, she will have spent a week or two with several farm families. She left for Brazil in October along with 14 other delegates headed for Latin America.

The privately financed IFYE program is designed to help improve international relations. Since its inauguration nearly 10 years ago, about 900 U.S. farm youth have visited in 5 countries, and more than 1,000 young people from these countries have visited in the United States.

Courier p. 4
Sat. 7-12-58
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW 4-H OFFICERS—New officers of the North Carolina 4-H Club Council elected last week at the annual 4-H Club Week observance at A. and T. College are, from left right, seated: Gloria Peacock, Benson, secretary; Howard Arrington, Four Oaks, president, and Clara Richardson, Smithfield, vice president. At rear are Dorothy Ramsey, Roxboro, historian, and LaVerne Robinson, Louisburg, treasurer.

Honor Four 4-H Club Winners in Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—State champions in Negro 4-H Club work received special recognition during the eighth annual 4-H Club Congress at Philander Smith College, Nov. 13-14. About 100 people attended.

This number included first place winners in project demonstrations, a county champion boy and girl in each of the 23 counties having Negro extension agents, scholarship and other activity winners, state 4-H council officers, 4-H leaders, extension agents, sponsors and special guests.

The winners were honored at a banquet Thursday night when awards were presented. Mrs. Cliffie Bonds, assistant manager of Bondol Laboratories, Madison, Ark., delivered the main address.

State champions in leadership were Kattie Mae Lockett, 19, Frenchman Bayou 4-H Club, Mississippi County, and Charles Block, 18, Antioch 4-H Club, Hempstead County.

Kattie Mae has been in 4-H Club work eight years. She is president of the county 4-H Council, local club, and was a senior 4-H Club leader.

Charles has been a 4-H Club member eight years and completed 32 projects. Leadership has been his favorite in recent years.

Edna May Duffy, 17, a member of the Carver Senior 4-H Club in Augusta, Woodruff County, and Harold Abraham, 17, Kiblah 4-H Club in Miller County, were named state champions in achievement.

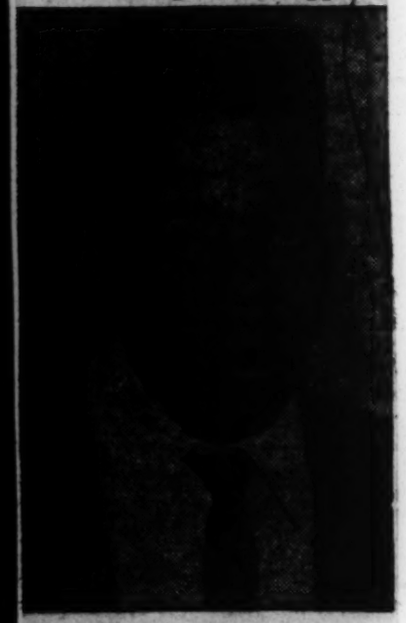
Edna Mae is a senior in high school and has been in club work six years. Harold is a junior in high school and has been in club work also six years. This year his projects were corn, cotton, swine, forestry, conservation of natural resources, personality improvement and leadership.

Courier p.

EDNA MAE DUFFY
. . (achievement) Woodruff Co.

CHARLES BLOCK
. . (leadership) Hempstead Co.

KATTIE MAE LOCKETT
. . (leadership) Mississippi Co



HABOLD ABRAHAM
. . (achievement) Miller Co.

LEADERS AND 4-H'ERS STUDY RESULTS

Left: Leaders and 4-H'ers study results of contests to decide winner in four-county meet. Seated (left to right) are T. R. Hurse, state 4-H Club agent, Tuskegee Institute; J. D. Hall, machinery dealer, Holy Methist assistant county agent, and William Dent, machinery dealer, all of Montgomery; C. B. Crenshaw, instructor, Sandtown HS, Millbrook (standing), served as timekeeper. Agents assisting were Grover C. Brooks, Autauga County; Roscoe A. Lee, Elmore; Scott Billingsley Jr., Lowndes; Odessa Bryant, Montgomery. Right: Edward Walker, Elmore County, gets a handshake from Leatha Peterson of Lowndes County. The two placed first and second as listed. Both boys took part in the final tractor eliminations at Tuskegee Institute in July. Third and fourth place winners stand ready to greet the winner.

Georgia, Arkansas 4-H Club Champions

Get Awards, Scholarships

DUBLIN, Ga. — Georgia's Negro 4-H Club members had a big day here recently as awards and scholarships were presented to 3[illegible] state champions in 4-H project work.

The 1958 State 4-H Club Congress which ended with about 125 boys and girls who previously had won district honors giving their 4-H project demonstrations in competition for state honors. The Congress was held at the State 4-H Club Center here.

An important feature of the awards program was a county roll call in which county agents and home demonstration agents turned in money collected for additional construction at the center. A total of $2,006.72 was turned in to A. S. Bacon, state agent for work, Agricultural Extension Service, University of Georgia College of Agriculture, by agents from 32 counties.

Top contributions came from Brooks and Burke counties—$300 each—and Houston $200.

Special guests at the Congress included a delegation of 24 Home Demonstration Club women of Greene County who plan to raise funds for construction of an additional cottage here. The group was presented to the 4-H'ers by Mrs. Minnie Bell, home demonstration agent in Greene county.

Awards to the state champion 4-H'ers were presented by State 4-H Club Leaders Alexander Hurse, M. C. Little and Carrie B. Powell with the assistance of agents.

Hurse said that the awards included two college scholarships, U. S. Savings Bonds, cash prizes, medals, certificates and other useful articles.

The awards are provided each year by various project sponsors in cooperation with the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work.

State and district awards in two special 4-H programs—electric wiring for homes and hybrid corn production—were presented by Miss Ruth Morris and Lamar Wansley both of the Georgia Power Co. which sponsors these programs.

Harold Darden, state 4-H Club leader at Athens, gave the awards address.

STATE CHAMPS

The state 4-H champions and their projects, by counties are:

Bibb—Richard Temple, electricity; Thomas M. Harrold, electric wiring for homes; Evelyn Thomas, food preparation, and Ernestine Daniels, safety.

Bryan—George F. Black, health.

Butts—Jessie L. Johnson, soil and water conservation.

Decatur — Esterine Sanders, achievement, and Robert Saunders, forestry.

Effingham—Sandra Eason, yeast rolls, and Ernestine Clarke, electric wiring for homes.

Henry—Gerald Price, garden.

Lowndes—Gwendolyn Pompey, biscuits; Freddie Wakefield, achievement; Ira Brown, dairy and Mary Alice Hall, who received a $150 college scholarship as second place winner in cornmeal muffins, program for high school graduates, and Walton Hunter, hybrid corn.

Mitchell—Reatha Brown and Nellie C. Bell, biscuit making team; and Deloris Daniels and Lillie W. Bush, yeast rolls team.

McIntosh—Angella Baker, home improvement; and Ann B. Palmer and Dianna Denillas, cornmeal muffins team.

Newton—Evelyn Wade, dress revue, and Carolyn M. Rosenberry, leadership.

Sumter—Laure Mayes, cornmeal muffins; Elfreta L. Mann, canning; Ollie M. Freeman, clothing, and Gerald D. Mann, field crops.

Thomas—Martha A. Bryant, $200 college scholarship as top winner in cornmeal muffins, program for high school graduates.

Walton—Minnie Robinson, frozen foods; Johnny H. Malcon, leadership, and Willie Robinson, poultry.

Washington — Barbara Wiley, dairy foods.

Wilkes—Esper Lee, tractor.

CITE ARKANSAS

State champions in 4-H Club work will receive special recognition during the eighth annual 4-H Club Congress at Philander Smith college, Little Rock, Nov. 13-14. About 100 people attended the Congress.

This number included first place winners in project demonstrations, a county champion boy and girl in each of the 23 counties having Negro Extension agents, scholarship and other activity winners, state 4-H council officers, 4-H leaders, Extension agents, sponsors, and special guests.

The winners were honored at a banquet Thursday night when awards were presented. Mrs. Cliffie Bonds, Assistant Manager of Bondol Laboratories, Madison, Arkansas, gave the main address.

Top honors went to boys and girls placing first in leadership and achievement. They received a trip to a Regional 4-H Club Camp next August.

State champions in leadership are Kattie Mae Lockett, 19, Frenchman Bayou 4-H Club in Mississippi County, and Charles Block, 18, Antioch 4-H Club in Hempstead County.

Edna Mae Duffy, 17, a member of the Carver Senior 4-H Club in Augusta, Woodruff county, and Harold Abraham, 17, Kiblah 4-H Club in Miller county are the state champions in achievement.

Special recognition was given runners-up in leadership and achievement. They are Clovesia Brent, 17, Bright Star 4-H Club in Chicot County; Otha Williams, 19, Phelix 4-H Club, Crittenden County; Bettye Joyce Robinson, 17, Smithdale-Central 4-H Club, Cross County, and Robert Fitz, 17, McCrory 4-H Club in Woodruff County.

GET BONDS AND WATCHES

Mae Frances Warren, 16, of the Vanndale Senior 4-H Club in Cross County, has been selected as the state winner in canning.

The clothing winner is Theressa Mae Bailey, 16, a member of the Vanndale Senior 4-H Club in Cross County.

A 16-year-old Phillips County boy was the winner in cotton. He is Torricelli Magett of the Oneida 4-H Club.

William Weatherspoon, 15, of Woodruff County who has been in club work only three years, is the electricity winner.

The top winner in field crops is Andrew D. Grayson, 18, Elaine 4-H Club in Phillips County.

An ambitious club girl who settled for second place last year came back to win first place in food preparation. She is Pauline Shumpert, 16, of the Birdsong 4-H Club in Mississippi County.

FORESTRY WINNER

The winner in forestry is Daniel Allen, 17, of the Bay 4-H Club in Ouachita County.

Lula Mae Smith, 19, a member of The Goodwin 4-H Club in St. Francis County is the state winner in frozen foods.

Vinnie Mae Newborne, 17, Vanndale 4-H Club in Cross County is the state winner in garden.

Raymond Griffin, jr., 17, a member of the Lakeview Club 4-H Club in Phillips County, captured honors in poultry.

The home improvement champion is Leverta Fears, 15, Oneida 4-H Club in Phillips County.

The winner in safety is David Veasey, 19, who was an outstanding 4-H member of the Marvell 4-H Club in Phillips County.

The tractor maintenance champion is Walter Marshall, jr., 19, of the Amorel 4-H Club in Mississippi County.

Jesse Dean Whitley, 15, Rondo 4-H Club of Lee County was named first place winner in wildlife conservation.

The state winner in swine is Odell Willis, 17, Washington High Senior 4-H Club in Miller County.

Maxcine Haymon, 18, Bright Star Community 4-H Club in Chicot County is the state winner in health.

Booker T. Marshall, 20, a member of the Armorel 4-H Club in Mississippi County, was named the winner in hybrid corn.

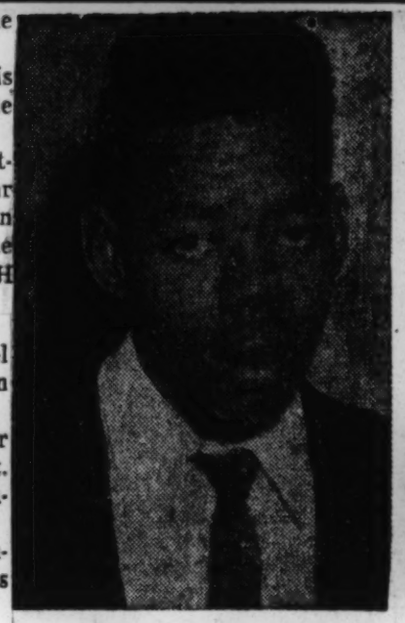
Three girls who won in the state bread demonstrations during 4-H Club Week in July received their awards at the Congress. They are team demonstration — Sherelene Moore, 16, and Mildred Robinson, 15, Holly Grove 4-H Club in Monrie County; and individual demonstration — Claudine Williams, 17, Bright Star Community 4-H Club in Chicot County.

Thelonia Lee, 14, Sherrill 4-H Club in Jefferson County also received her award for winning in the state dress revue.

Two 4-H club members, Sterling King, 17, Aubrey 4-H Club of Lee County and Emma Jean McCoy, 18, Carver Senior 4-H Club of Lonoke County, received $75 each in scholarships from the Memphis Tri-State Fair and the Eastern Arkansas Ginners Co-op Council.

Two leaders were honored for their outstanding work with their respective clubs. They are Mary Lois Hayes who is a former 4-H club member of Desha County and Joseph H. Williams of Mississippi County.

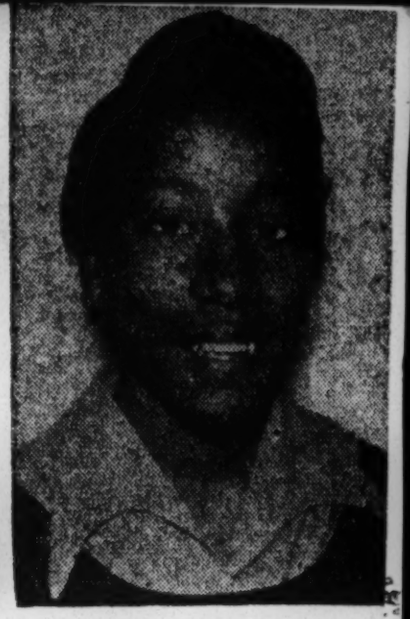
Honorary members who were awarded certificates are Andrew H. Howard Marianna; R. J. Roddy, Memphis, Tennessee; and P. S. Jackson. Heth.



HAROLD ABRAHAM

KATTIE MAE LOCKETT

CHARLES EDWARD BLOCK



EDNA MAE DUFFY

Virginia State College coed heard on Brazilian broadcast

BRAZIL — Miss Doris A. Smith, 4-H Club member, who is spending six months in Brazil as an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate, has won the hearts of the people of the State of Minas Gerais with a broadcast in Portuguese.

The Virginia State College graduate, who has been studying Portuguese since last fall when she was selected to go to Brazil, impressed the radio announcer with her ability to speak the language. He had planned to do the interview through an interpreter, but changed his plans after talking with Miss Smith.

Following the interview, which was conducted entirely in Portuguese, the announcer asked the 4-H'er to sing a song. This she also did in Portuguese. Studio people and the family with whom she was staying at the time were highly pleased with the broadcast, and neighbors and listeners from miles around came or called to congratulate her.

THE NEXT DAY was Miss Smith's 21st birthday and her IFYE family gave her a party. There was a birthday cake with candles; and there were candy and fruit and nuts.

Miss Smith has been in Brazil since October. During this time she has lived with eight families: Brazilian, English, German, American, and Japanese.

Of the Japanese, Miss Smith writes, "There are 13 in the family: two of the girls are about my age. We have become very good friends, as well as IFYE sisters.

"Today my Japanese family was told that I am to leave tomorrow," Miss Smith continues, "so tonight they had a farewell dinner for me. I had a feeling of sadness and happiness when my IFYE sister presented me a beautiful pin from the family and asked that we continue our friendship after I return to the United States."

Summer 4-H Club Program Outlined By Negro Council

Charleston S. C.

Outlines for a summer 4-H Club program for Negro members were set up at the annual spring meeting of the Charleston County 4-H Club Negro Council. Club delegates and adult leaders met a Reid Center.

Clubs were asked to participate in community meetings, summer camps, games, erection of 4-H Club signs on school grounds, summer picnics, monthly club meetings and a program of awards for outstanding work.

Clubs represented were Rockville, Murray LaSaine, Gresham Meggett, and Miley Hill. Adult leaders present were Mrs. Estelle Henry; Mrs. E. B. Grant, Mrs. C. Cochran, Mrs. Miriam Johnson and Miss Edith Frierson. B. T. McIntosh, Negro farm agent, also was at the meeting.

Officers of the council are Joyce Goodwin of Murray LaSaine School; president; Walter Mitchell of LaSaine School, vice president; Peggy Singleton of Laing School, secretary; Janie Graham of Gresham Meggett School assistant secretary; Virginia Richardson of Rockville, treasurer; Louise Gray of Miley Hill School chaplain, and Mary L. Coleman of Baptist Hill School, assistant chaplain.

4-H'ers Receive Awards At Annual Achievement Program

HENDERSON — The Negro County Agents auditorium was filleld lwith 4H'ers and adults Saturday at the annual 4H Achievement program where honors, certificates, awards, bonds and a scholarship were presented to fifty-seven 4H girls and boys of Rusk county for their outstanding achievements during 1957.

Delois Lewis played soft music before the program started. Alnita Rettig, mistress of ceremonies, made remarks. Al Theria Burrus led the group in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and Eva Jo Tipps led the group in saying the 4H Prayer, motto and pledge; Rufus O'Neal gave the occasion.

County, District and State awards were presented to the following: County Awards: Halcolm Holliman and Doris Hutchinson, Achievement; Alnita Rettig and Halcolm Holliman, Gold Star girl and boy; Alnita Rettig, Bread; Al Thera Burris, Leadership; Nell Stafford, canning; Lou A. Robertson, Clothing; Eva Jo Tipps, Mary S. Hogg, Dorothy Shepherd, Jes Sturn, Dress Revue; Ruby J. Tipps, Cozell Johnson, Food Preparation; Patricia Blanton, Frozen Foods; Marion Coss and James Redwine, Health; Patsy Ballinger, Home Improvement; Vernel Sturn, Boys Agriculture Charles Dansby, Dairy; Orel Nelson, Electric; Paul Stein, Field Crops; Johnny Johnson, Homer Reddic, John E. Henson, Lewis E. Sturn, Forestry; Leon Harris Garden; James Pollard, Poultry; Billie Johnson, Safety; Sulsa Windom, Soil and Water Conservation; Velvet Tturm, Danny Montgomery, Darnell Trimble, Tractor Maintenance; John R. Clay Meat Animal.

District Winers; Rufus O'Neal, Wildlife, $50 Saving Bond; Alnita Rettig, Martha A. Booker and Ruby J. Tipps, Bread Demonstration.

State Winners; Halcollm Holliman, Achievement, Pen - Pencil Set; Vernel Sturn, Boy's Agriculture, $50 Saving Bond; Alnita Rettig, Bread Demonstration (Individual) $25 Saving bond; Al Theria Burris, Citizenship, $50 Saving Bond; Brooks Dansby, Dairy, $50 Saving Bond; Willis B. Reddic, Forestry, Pen - Pencil Set; A. P. Rettig Jr, Soil and Water Conservation, 19 Jewel Wrist Watch; Rufus O'Neal Wildlife, $1200 scholarship (4 Yrs schooling); Alnita Rettig and John E. Henson, Danforth Award, Book entitled "I Dare You.'

4H Safety and Health certificates were presented to Church Hill, Mayflower, Concord, New Salem, Mt Enterprise, Laneville, Antioch and Meziner Hill schools.

The presentations were made by John T. Settle County School Supervisor; Mrs Fannie Muckleroy, Pres Beginners Garden Club; Mrs Mozell J. Daniels, Elementary teacher and adult leader; Mrs Birta M. Carter, Home Economic teacher, Laneville; Miss Alva Jones, Home Economic teacher, Henderson; Mrs L. N. O'Neal, Music teacher, Mayflower; A. W. O'Neal, Principal, Antioch school; M. V. Brown Administrative Asst Extension Service Prairie View Clarence Pryor, Electrician; Brown L. Brackens, Soil Conservationist, Nacogdoches -Rusk R. A. Sanders, District Agent, Northern District; Mrs Wilma Holman, Elementary teacher and leader, New Salem Charles Ballenger, Principal Mizner Hill Elementary school, Henderson; William Drennan, Vocational Agriculture teacher, Henderson; Mrs Famie Hill, Elementary teacher and adult leader; Edwin C. Cooper, Wildlife Specialist, Extension Service, A and M College, College, Station; and Mrs M. C. Reeder and R. P. Gobden, local agents.

Out of town guests were recog nized and the benediction was given by the Rev A. P. Rettig, Sr.

Negro 4-H Clubs Announce Plans For Summer

Constitution State News Service

DUBLIN—Following the close of Georgia's public schools, a full summer of 4-H Club activities involving more than 2,000 Negro 4-Hers will begin, according to Alexander Hurse, Negro State Club agent.

Most of the scheduled activities will be held at the 4-H Club Center at Dublin, where a new 500-capacity auditorium and a modern dining hall and kitchen will be opened.

Beginning June 6 five district 4-H project elimination meetings will be held in which more than 400 county project demonstration champions will compete for district honors.

These district eliminations will be held as follows: District one and two, Greensboro High School, June 6; District five, Carver High School, Dawson, June 13; District six, Griffin High School, June 20; District three, Claxton High School, June 27, and District four, Ashburn High School, July 11.

Five district summer camps will be held at the Dublin 4-H Center. They are: District four, June 9-12; District three, June 16-19; District five, June 23-26; District one and two, June 30-July 3, and District six, July 7-10.

WITNESS WHITE HOUSE PRESENTATION — Among those who witnessed the presentation of a Smokey Bear statuette to Miss Judy Bell at the White House recently were Miss Margaret G. Brown, 4-H'er of Bryanton, Md., and Edward Branch, Boy Scout of Washington, D. C. They and two other youngsters are shown with Judy Bell who is holding her statuette which was presented by Sherman Adams, Assistant to the Presidlent. Miss Bell was honored for helping Smokey Bear back to health when as a cub he was rescued from a New Mexico forest fire in 1950. —(USDA Photo).

Reduced Acreage Plays Havoc With Families

By SHERMAN BRISCOE
USDA Information Specialist

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Many Negro farm families of the South, like others of the region, are turning increasingly to alternative cash crops as the answer to their Number One problem — reduced cotton acreage. However, some with too few acres are unable to make the shift.

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THE FAMILIES visited represent a sample of those who have responded to the advice and counsel of extension workers and are improving their farming methods, as well as adopting alternative cash crops to help make up for their loss of cotton income.

Most of the farmers I visited are raising hogs for market. Some sell as many as 200 head a year, but they have their fingers crossed, fearing over-production and a decline in price. A few have beef cattle, some are in dairying, others are marketing vegetables, three have off-farm jobs, and some in South Carolina are trying their hand at raising Turkish tobacco.

FIVE OF THE farmers have forgot about cotton, at least for this year, and have put their land in the Soil Bank to help reduce the surplus. Cotton on hand in the United States or carried over from last year's crop is expected to total 8.7 million bales on August 1. Of this amount, about 4.4 million bales are in Government storage. Annual consumption and U. S. cotton exports are expected to total 13.6 million bales in the 1957-58 marketing year.

But despite the surplus, many operators whose farms are geared mainly to cotton production are continuing to plant their full acreage allotment in order to provide for their families.

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REPEATEDLY, agents told me that small farmers with too few acres are really up against it, especially if they have large families. "These farmers just don't have enough resources to establish alternative enterprises, such as hogs, cattle, or poultry," the agents explained.

Continuing, the agents pointed out that some of these farmers would try raising vegetables for market, but there often are no nearby outlets. They added that many are seeking off-farm employment without much success.

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PARTLY BECAUSE of the lack of non-farm job opportunities, and partly because of improved family relations, one observes an increased number of father and son and brother and brother partnerships.

I visited one family which was trying to eke out a living on 49 acres. The father and son have seven children at home between them. They are following all the recommended practices, but they just don't have enough land.

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HOWEVER, A number of families I visited have licked the problem of reduced cotton acreage. "I just as soon not raise any cotton at all," said Leroy Ellois of New Roads, La. And to prove it, he is marketing about $100 worth of vegetables wholesale every week.

Johnny Burkhalter of Prentiss, Miss., says some years in the past he has planted as much as 100 acre of cotton. This year he is down to 15. The rest of his 35-acre allotment is in the Soil Bank, and he is concentrating on improving his pastures for his 300 head of beef cattle.

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NEAR DOTHAN, Ala., Foy Lee Callen told me, "I am not planting any cotton this year; my whole allotment is in the Soil Bank." Out in his pastures were 60 head of Landrace, Duroc, and Yorkshire hogs. He has already sold 35 head, and expects to sell 40 to 50 more. "I get a premium for my hogs because they are meat-type," he said proudly.

Robert Mattison of Anderson, S. C., is one of 24 colored farmers in his county who have turned to Turkish tobacco to supplement their cotton income. Most of them plant from one to five acres of the tobacco. It brings them about $1,000 an acre. In addition Mr. Mattison has a full-time job in town at a service station.

YES, SOME OF the farmers seem to have found an answer to their problem of reduced cotton acreage. And they are enthusiastic about their new crops and their improved farming practices. They tell you right off, "My farm has been mapped by a Soil Conservation Service technician and my soil tested."

They talk about rotating their crops, building terraces, raising grade and purebred animals, and trying out improved varieties of seed.

One gets the feeling that although some farmers are having it tough because their farms are too small or unproductive, others are moving ahead, laying the foundation for a better day in agriculture.

4-H WINNERS—Three of the 19 4-H project winners during the state 4-H Demonstration Day on the campus at Tennessee State University are shown with their U. S. Savings Bonds prizes. Left to right: Willie Mae Fields, Somerville, Tenn.; Mary Lee Shaw, Ripley, Tenn., and Louvern Geer, Stanton, Tenn.

Agricultural Tours Draw Interest Of 4-H Members

Persons taking part in last week's agricultural tour expressed great enthusiasm over the project, according to The Rev. J. A. Ashe, chairman of the tour committee of 4-H Club boys, and other interested citizens of the county.

The tours were conducted to the Prattville Experiment Field and Auburn Experiment Station, July 10 and July 11.

Those attending the tour of the Prattville Experiment Field were representative of the following communities: McLean, Tankersley, Dublin, Holt's Crossin, and New Liberty. The total attendance at Prattville from Montgomery County was 29, with McLean sending 14. The emphasis in Prattville was on small farm operations with cotton and hogs as the cash enterprises.

The tour of the Auburn Experiment Station was attended by representatives from Dublin, Jackson Prospect, Mt. Meigs, Waugh, Hickory Bend and New Liberty communities. The total attendance from Montgomery county was 39 of which 17 were from Mt. Meigs.

Auburn, the main station, gave many informative demonstrations in field crops, forage crops, beef cattle, dairy cattle, hogs, broiler production, irrigation and farm mechanization for the group.

Last Tuesday the first in-county tour was held in the Hope Hull section, MsGhee's Switch McLean and Bibb Fork. The tour began at the home of Willie J Webster with a pullet project. Others included cotton and corn at the farm of Willi Brown; fish pond construction, at the farm of Jimmy Lamb; swine production, Tom adams; corn production at the farm of Tom Adams; corn, farm of Forest Joseph; cotton, corn, and peanuts at the farm of William Owens and beef cattle production at the farm of James Edward Adams.

This cimmunity tour was most interesting according to expressions from those who attended. Farm Agents Jones and Addre Bryant discussed crops and livestock to the group.

Other community tours will include Madison Park, Mt. Meigs, Waugh Hickory Bend, Ramer. Leaders will be notified through mail and in news announcements.

Lowndes 4-H Club Members Plan Courses At Tuskegee

HAYNEVILLE — A delegation of 11 boys and seven girls will leave Lowndes County for Tuskegee Institute Monday to attend the annual State Short Course and encampment for 4-H Club members in Alabama. It opens Monday, July 21 and will continue through Friday.

Members composing up the delegation are Arnucia Sharp, James Sharp, Jimmy Carl Moody, Scott Billingley III, William Cannon of Hayneville, Don Perry, Lawson Perry, Calvin Logan, Sheperd Rush, Langston Paige, Central; Andrew Gatson, Hale; Bessie Fleeton and Mary Ellen Means, Letohatchie; Laura Ann Rudolph and Freddie Stallworth, St. Clair; Earnestine Moorer and Yvonnie Hicks, Braggs; and MacArthur Kertland of Fort Deposit. The delegation will be accompanied by the county extension agent Scott Billingley Jr.

The Lowndes County delegation will join more than 300 other bama counties. All delegates participating in the annual event are selected for outstanding project work and leadership. While at Tuskegee Institute, the delegates will take part in a number of educational activities and will hear lectures by President L. H. Foster and other members of the faculty.

The camp program will give all delegates an opportunity to discuss problems and learn how to solve many to their own advantage. The main purposes for the camp and short course are to give each delegate an opportunity to gain new knowledge and understanding that will help round out a balanced life; and to teach each delegate the sharing of knowledge.

Delegates will take part in group discussions dealing with the theme, "You and Your 4-H Club— The Individual, the Family and the Community".

Recreational activities will include lawn parties, dances, a talent show and picnic. This week long program is being sponsored by the Negro division of the Extension Service in cooperation with the host school.

Short Course-Encampment For 4-Hers Opens July 21

From 250 to 400 4-H clubsters will gather at Tuskegee Institute, Monday, July 21, for their annual short course and encampment. Coming from 35 Alabama counties where Negro extension workers are located, the campers have been selected because of outstanding leadership and project work.

In keeping with their camp theme: "You and Your 4-H Club," the delegates will study and discuss roles fo the individual, the family and the community. Beside groups and assembly discussions, the youngsters will hear greetings from Tuskegee Institute's President Dr. L. H. Foster, faculty, and other leaders. With the camp activities closing Friday evening, the group will return home Saturday.

The camp program will give delegates a chance to discuss problems they confront, and learn ways to solve many to their own advantages. The main purposes of the camp and short course, briefly, are: to give each delegate an opportunity to gain new knowledge and understanding that will help him round out a complete life and to have each delegate learn how to share his new knowledge and understanding with others.

District award program winners in foods, clothing, and tractor care and operation will compete for the state honors during the week. Phases of club work, contestants and their home counties are as follows: Dairy foods, Elnore Juniors, Marengo County, Mae Ola Paschal, Elmore; Willie Ewing, Conecuh; Geraldine Jackson, Houston; Joyce Carter, Morgan; Iris Canady, Tallapoosa; and Gesna Walker, Tuscaloosa.

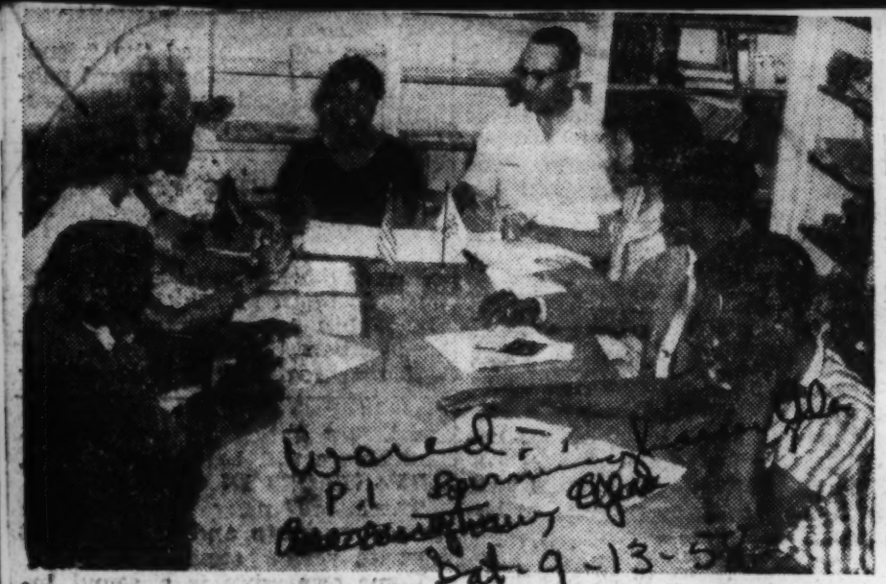
Yeast breads (individuals), Bettye J. Peten, Sumter; Fondoria Paschal, Elmore; Pearl D. Gordon, Limestone; Dorothy Turner, Chambers; and Mary Lynn, Houston. Yeast breads (teams) Maggie Brady and Sarah Beard, Chambers; Elizin Gibbons and Ollie Pugh, Autauga; Cloria Davis and Kay B. Miller, Lawrence; Bernice Williams and Carolyn Jones, Barbour and Alvin Jean Jacobs and Lillie M. Boykin, Conecuh.

Dress revue, Yvonne Taylor, Tuscaloosa; Mozelle McKinney, Macon; Mary Hicks, Lee; Sylvia Sledge, Madison; Lillie Bulger, Henry; Agnes Kennebrough, Wilcox, and Versie Dobynes, Perry.

Tractor care and operation, Sam Harris, Marengo; Luther Davis, Tuscaloosa; Lawrence Washington, Limestone; Willie Johnson, Butler; Edward Walker, Elmore; Wayland Persons, Barbour and Billy Belyue, Coosa.

Winners will receive awards including saving bonds and other useful items. Some will be considered as delegates for the Regional 4-H Club Camp next year.

During the week, members of the State 4-H Club Council will hold business sessions and elect officers for the next year. The business sessions will be directed by State 4-H Club Agents, Miss B. M. Jones and T. R. Agnew. Other state Extension workers select county and home agents will cooperate with Tuskegee Institute faculty and staff members in conducting the camp and short course.



PLAN ALABAMA 4-H COUNCIL PROGRAM — (Tuskegee Institute, Ala.) — Officers of the Alabama State 4-H Club Council huddle to complete work of the current council year and to formulate plans for an expanded program during the Annual 4-H Encampment and Short Course held here. The council is composed of 4-H representatives and officers from county 4-H councils. Council members are, (left to right), Sherman McKinney, Macon County, treasurer; John Carver Jones, Elmore, vice president; Emma Johnson, Conecuh, song leader; T. R. Agnew, Tuskegee Institute, boys' leader; Sylvia Sledge, Madison, president; Miss B. M. Jones, Tuskegee Institute, girls' leader; Louise Denson, Talledega, secretary, and Andrew Gaston, Lowndes, assistant secretary.

Negro 4-H Club Elects Officers

Contest Winners Named At Arkansas Meeting

SCOTT NEW PRESIDENT

Special to The Commercial Appeal

LITTLE ROCK, Aug. 2.—Mildred P. Scott of Woodruff County has been named president of the Arkansas Negro 4-H Club succeeding Sterling King of Lee County.

Other new officers, named at the 33rd annual 4-H Club Week and Leaders Conference held this week in Pine Bluff, include Joseph House of Lee County, vice president; Sarah Kathryn Johnson of Nevada County, secretary; Betty Dancey of Crittenden County, assistant secretary, and Sylvia Wade of Hempstead County, song leader.

Winners in statewide competition included:

Sam Fitz of Woodruff County won the state tractor driving contest with Claude Kennedy of Lee County placing second. Others receiving recognition in the tractor driving activity were Walter Marshall of Mississippi County, Willie James Moore of St. Francis County, Ellis Monk of Columbia County and Willie B. Harrison of Crittenden County.

Winner of the dress revue was Thelonia Lee of Jefferson County.

Other winners were: Best dress—Norma Phillips of Monroe County, Restee Bess of Lincoln County, Esma Davis of Chicot County, Lucille Harris of Ashley County, Dorothy Fears of Phillips County and Gennie Mae Jones of Cross County; school dress—Mary E. Hill of Mississippi County, Fatima Moore of Monroe County, Gloria Jean Hare of Cross County, Eartha Humble of Pulaski County, Gloria Anderson of Chicot County and Hattie Mae Walls of Jefferson County; work or play garment—Ruby Cornelious of Woodruff County, Earlene Clark of Lafayette County, Earnestine Roland of Ashley County, Rosie Mae Smith of Cross County, Laverne Franklin of Pulaski County and Ada F. McKissick of St. Francis County.

Home management—Earline Jordan of Desha County, first place and Theresa Baily of Cross County, Marie Johnson of St. Francis County, and Rosetta Macon of Clark County, "A" awards.

Health, individual—Clovesia Brent of Chicot county, first place; Team—Jacquelyn Gantt and Linda Carol Jones of Miller county. Horticulture—Sterling King and Joseph House of Lee county, team. Forestry—Edward Briggs of Nevada county.

Agronomy, individual—Walter Landrum of Woodruff county, first; Raymond Griffin of Phillips county, "A" winner. Team—William Rust and Troy Copeland of Lincoln county, first. Entomology—Snowdie Avery of Union county, first; Joe Peyton of Lonoke county, "A" award.

Bread demonstrations, individual — Claudine Williams of Chicot county, first; Bettye Robinson of Cross county, Marilyn Ware of Lincoln county, Essie Lee Marsh of Lonoke county, Bettie Jean Hill of Mississippi county, Clara Garmon of Nevada county, Ernestine Green of Desha county and Juanita Jackson of St. Francis county "A" awards. Team—Mildred Robinson and Sherelene Moore of Monroe county, first; Bobbie L. Woods and Florence Jones of Crittenden county and Iris Joe James and Emmer King of Lee county, "A" awards.

Poultry, individual—Will Broomfield Jr. of Columbia county, first; team—Charlie Coates and Herman Wilkins of Jefferson county, and Harold Wade and Lee Keaton of Miller county, tied for first place.

Home improvement—Kallie Mae Locke of Mississippi county, first; Alice Bogan of Lonoke county, "A" award.

Food preparation, individual—Betty Jan Royston of Nevada county, first; Ann Snowden of Hempstead county and Hazel Haynes of Jefferson county, "A" award. Team—Eleanor Bilbey and Armanda Singleton of Crittenden county, first; Charlotte and Catherine Nails of Columbia county, and Marie Goodwin and Thelma Jones of Lee county, "A" awards.

Safety—Mozella O. Murphy, Phillips county, first. Electricity, individual—Mildred Scott of Woodruff county, first. Team—Archie Nimmer and Thomas Carlyle of Chicot county, first.

Seed indentification—James Hudspeth of Cross county, first. Land judging—W. C. Driver of Jefferson county, first.

Elect Woman As President

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A total of 507 4-H club members, adult leaders, and agents attended the 33rd annual 4-H Club Week and Leaders conference held recently at A. M. & N. college in Pine Bluff.

Mildred P. Scott of Woodruff county was elected president of the State 4-H council. She succeeds Sterling King of Lee county. Other officers are: vice-president, Joseph House of Lee county; secretary Sarah Kathryn Johnson of Nevada county; assistant secretary, Betty Dancey of Crittenden county; song leader, Sylvia Wade of Hempstead county.

Four-H Week officially began Monday night with the 1957-58 state officers in charge of a general assembly. Method demonstration and activities were conducted on a competitive basis Tuesday and Wednesday.

Speakers on the programs included C. A. Vines, associate director of the Arkansas Agricultural Extension Service, Little Rock; E. E. Evans, administrative dean and registrar; Dr. J. E. Marshall, director of freshman studies Dr. Cleo O. Hearnton, director of student teaching, A. M. & N. college, and Mrs. Fannie Mae Boone, retired Negro home demonstration supervisor.

TRACTOR CHAMP

Sam Fitz of Woodruff county won the state tractor driving contest with Claude Kennedy of Lee county placing second. The two top tractor drivers will receive awards of wrist watches. Others receiving recognition in the tractor driving activity were Walter Marshall of Mississippi county, Willie James Moore of St. Francis county, Ellis Monk of Columbia county, and Willie B. Harrison of Crittendon county.

The winner of the dress revue is Thelonia Lee of Jefferson county. Thelonia, who will receive a $50 bond, modeled a full-skirted, cotton satin print. "A" award winners in the dress revue are:

Best dress — Norma Phillips of Monroe county, Restee Bess of Lincoln county, Esma Davis of Chicot county, Lucille Harris of Ashley county, Dorothy Fears of Phillips county, Gennie Mae Jones of Cross county.

School dress — Mary E. Hill of Mississippi county, Fatima Moore of Monroe county, Gloria Jean Hare of Cross county, Eartha Humble of Pulaski county, Gloria Anderson of Chicot county, Hattie Mae Walls of Jefferson county.

Work or play garment — Ruby cornelious of Woodruff county, Earlene Clark of Lafayette county, Earnestine Roland of Ashley county, Rosie Mae Smith of Cross county, Laverne Franklin of Pulaski county and Ada F. McKissick of St. Francis county.

First place and "A" award winners are listed below: Home management — Earline Jordan of Desha county, first place; Theresa Bailey of Cross county, Marie Johnson of St. Francis county, and Rosetta Macon of Clark county, "A" awards.

Health, individual — Clovesia Brent of Chicot county, first place; Team — Jacquelyn Gnatt and Linda Carol Jones of Miller county.

Horticulture — Sterling King and Joseph House of Lee county, team.

Forestry — Edward Briggs of Nevada county.

Agronomy, individual — Walter Landrum of Woodruff county, first; Raymond Griffin of Phillips county, "A" winner. Team — William Rust and Troy Copeland of Lincoln county, first.

Entomology — Snowidie Avery of Union county, first; Joe Peyton of Lonoke county, "A" award.

Bread demonstrations, individual — Claudine Williams of Chicot county, first; Bettye Robinson of Cross county, Marilyn Ware of Lincoln county, Essie Lee Marsh of Lonoke county, Bettie Jean Hill of Mississippi county, Clara Garmon of Nevada county, Ernestine Green of Desha county, and Juanita Jackson of St. Francis county, "A" Awards.

Team — Mildred Robinson and Sherelene Moore of Monroe county, first; Bobbie L. Woods and Florence Jones of Crittenden county, and Iris Joe James and Emmer King of Lee county, "A" awards.

State 4-H Camp Clubsters At Tuskegee Institute July 21-25

From 350 to 400 4-H clubsters will gather at Tuskegee Institute, Monday, July 21, for their annual short course and encampment.

Coming from 35 Alabama counties where Negro Extension workers are located, the campers have been selected because of outstanding leadership and project work.

In keeping with their camp theme: "You and Your 4-H Club," the delegates will study and discuss roles of the individual, the family, the community. Besides group and assembly discussion, the youngsters will hear greetings from Tuskegee Institute President L. H. Foster, members of the institute faculty, and other leaders. With the camp activities closing Friday evening, the groups will return home Saturday.

The camp program will give delegates a chance to discuss problems they confront, and learn ways to solve many to their own advantages. The main purposes of the camp and short course, briefly, are: 1) to give each delegate an opportunity to gain new knowledge and understanding that will help him round out a complete life, and 2) to have each delegate learn how to share his new knowledge and understanding with others.

District award programs winners in foods, clothing, and tractor care and operation will compete for state honors during the week. Phase of club work, contestants, and their home counties are as follows:

Dairy foods — Elnora Juniors, Marengo County; Mae Ola Paschel, Elmore; Willie Ewing, Conecuh; Geraldine Jackson, Houston; Joyce Carter, Morgan; Iris Canady, Tallapoosa, and Gesna Walker, Tuscaloosa.

Yeast bread (individuals) Bettye Jean Peten, Sumter: Fondoria Paschal, Elmore; Pearl Diane Gordon, Limestone; Dorothy Turner, Chambers; and Mary Lynn, Houston. Yeast breads (teams) — Maggie Brady and Sarah Beard, Chambers; Elzin Gibons and Ollie Pugh, Autauga; Gloria Davis and Kay B. Miller, Lawrence; Bernice Williams and Carolyn Jones, Barbour, and Alvin Jean Jacobs and Lillie M. Boykin, Conecuh.

Dress revue — Yvonne Taylor, Tuscaloosa; Mozelle McKinney, Macon; Mary Hicks Lee; Sylvia Sledge, Madison; Lillie Bulger, Henry; Agnes Kenebrough, Wilcox, and Versie Dobynes, Perry.

Tractor care and operation — Sam Harris, Marengo; Luther Davis, Tuscaloosa; Lawrence Washington, Limestone; Willie Johnson, Butler; Edward Walker, Elmore; Wayland Persons, Barbour, and Billy Belyue, Coosa.

Winners will receive awards including savings bonds and other useful items. Some will be considered as delegates for the Regional 4-H Camp next year.

During the week, members of the State 4-H Club Council will hold business sessions and elect officers for the next year. The business sessions will be directed by State 4-H Club Agents Miss B. M. Jones and T. R. Agnew. Other state Extension workers, select county and home agents will cooperate with Tuskegee Institute faculty and staff members in conducting the camp and short course.

600 Attend 4-H Club Week

GREENSBORO, N. C. — More than 600 farm boys and girls from throughout North Carolina attended the 28th annual 4-H Club Week observance held here at A&T College last week.

Principal addresses were delivered by Dr. Warmoth T. Gibbs, president of A&T College; L. R. Harrill, Raleigh, State 4-H Club leader, and Dr. Rose Butler Browne, chairman, Department of Education, North Carolina College at Durham.

A Halifax County girl was crowned queen of the "Clothing Stars of 1958," a fashion show in which the girls modeled the garments they had constructed. Mildred Faulcon, Enfield, won the title with a school dress she had made from material won last year as runnerup in the same contest.

GWENDOLYN NELSON, Roxboro, who modeled a church dress and Marian Poe, Salisbury, who wore an eevning dress, were given runnerup prizes.

A team from Wayne County eked out a win as state champions in the livestock judging contest, beating out Edgecombe County after the two had tied, turning in identical scores in the first judging. The winning team included James Rayford, Willie Rodgers and Earl Smith Jr., all of Goldsboro, RFD. The members of the Edgecombe County team were Benjamin Jones, William Knight and Vonneree Deloatch, all of Tarboro.

4-H'er Grosses $7,000, To

Defender

Attend D.C. Regional Meet

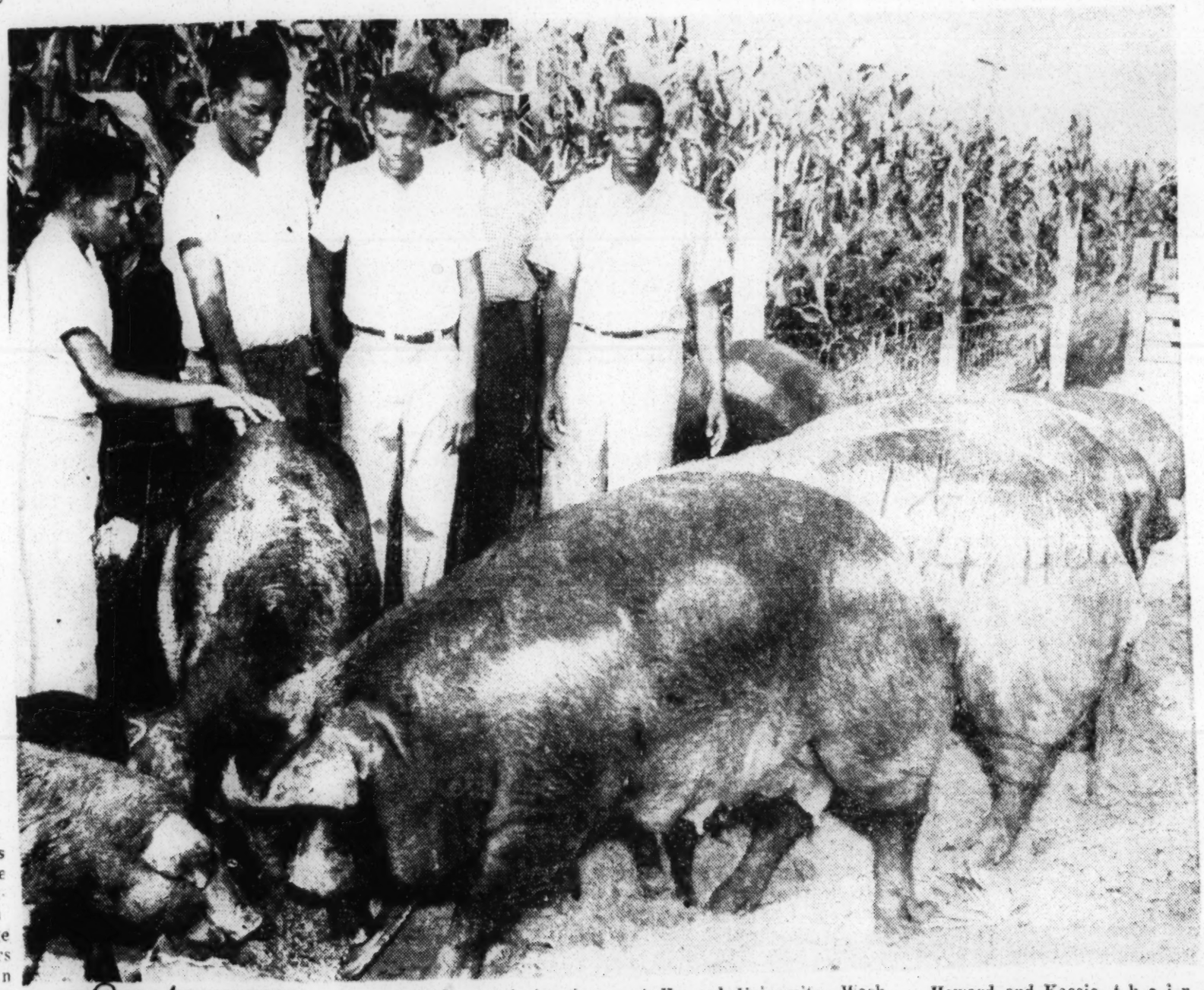
Chicago Ill.

One hundred and 28 4-H club boys and girls, who have set the pace in farm and home improvement projects for their 354,000 fellow clubbers, have been selected as delegates to the 11th annual regional 4-H club camp, August 10-18, at Howard university in Washington, D. C.

Some of the delegates have raised grand champion hogs and cattle, others have produced highest yields of soybeans, cotton, and tobacco, and still others have taken the lead in repairing and painting their homes and in beautifying their lawns.

Several of the boys are champion tractor drivers, and most of the girls have won top honors in sewing and cooking. Almost all the 4-H delegates have had a hand in such community-wide improvements as beautifying church and school grounds, and painting mailboxes, and all are outstanding in leadership and citizenship.

One of the most outstanding is Jack Pennington, 20-year-old son of a Hollandale, Miss., tenant farmer. Like eight of his 11 brothers and sisters, Jack joined his local 4-H club as soon as he reached 10 years of age. Up to now he has completed 24 projects in livestock, poultry, and field crops. These have earned him $7,737.80 a score of blue ribbons, a dozen red ones, two watches, ship to make a career both attractive and rewarding, but she does not get beneath the surface of the music and hence her performance does not become distinguish ter Mississippi Vocational college this fall where one of his brothers is a sophomore. He has been saving up from the sale of hogs, calves, cotton, and corn to help pay his way through.



A CHAMPION AND HIS HOGS—Jack Pennington, second from left, is the Mississippi 4-H Achievement winner for 1958 for having had the best projects in hogs, calves, chickens, and field crops during the past five years. This accomplishment assured him a place among Mississippi's delegation to the 11th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp, August 10-18, at Howard University, Washington, D. C. Hogs and other crops have brought him a total of $7,737.80 in nine years. Observing Jack's hogs along with him are: Two of his brothers, Howard and Kassie, their father, Huedie, a Hollandale, Miss., tenant farmer; and Robert B. Cooper, 4-H club agent of Washington County, Miss.—USDA Photo

State 4 - H Delegates Report On Encampment in Washington

Tennessee delegates who have just returned from the 11th annual 4-H Club Camp, August 10-18, at Howard University, Washington, D. C., report on the many activities in which they participated.

Making up the delegation were:: Arthur Jones, Shelby County; Hattie Searcy, Crockett County; Dorois Reynolds, Giles County; Eli Fletcher, Montgomery County; Donald Wynn, Robertson County; Dora L. Anderson, Hardeman County; Heddie E. Hayes, Davidson County and Thomas Alston, Jr., Tipton County Miss Bessie L. Walton and W. H. Williamson, State Leaders.

The delegates report that they along with 4-H'ers from 16 other States heard addresses by Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard; Dr. Edward W. Aiton national director of 4-H and Young Men and Women's Work; Dr. Robert P. Daniel, president of Virginia State College, Petersburg, Va.; and Earle D. Chesney of the White House staff.

Director George B. Nutt of the South Carolina Extension Service and chairman of the camp planning committee; Administrator C. M. Ferguson of the Federal Extension Service; former track star Jesse Owens; Miss Dorothy Emerson, associate state 4-H agent in Maryland; and P. H. Stone, camp director.

Sandwiched in between the speeches and discussions were other activities; Wreath laying ceremonies at the tombs of Geo. and Martha Washington and those of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery, a boat ride to Mount Vernon, band concerts, and lessons in water safety.

The delegates report that they visited the White House, the Capitol, the U. S. Government of Agriculture, the Beltsville, Md., Research Center, the Lincoln Memorial Washington Monument, Jefferson Memorial, and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing where paper money, savings bonds, and stamps are printed.

A climax of the encampment was the presentation of 4-H plaques to four persons who have made outstanding contributions to the development of rural young people. Those who were honored are: Dr. Armour J. Blackburn, dean of students, Howard University; President Walker M. Davis of Okolona College, Okolona, Miss.; Miss Blanche D. Harrison, retired district home agent of Virginia; and R. J. Roddy, principal of the Woodstock Training School, Shelby Cty Tenn. and manager of the Memphis Tri-State Fair.

The following States were represented at the encampment: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

Dr. Johnson And Howard U Host 17 State 4-H Meet

Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard university and host to the 11th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp, August 10-18, told the delegates Sunday that farmers have an important role to play in the achievement of world peace.

"Man has never been certain," the educator declared, "that there was enough food to go around, and so he has never risen above the animal level, fighting, killing, and taking to try to make sure that he has enough for himself and friends.

"But farmers and scientists now have the means of producing enough for everybody," Dr. Johnson continued, "and you 4-H club boys and girls and your parents must continue to utilize the results of research to help give assurance of abundance and of world peace."

17 STATES

Listening were 128 rural young people from 17 Southern States who were here representing 354,000 fellow 4-H'ers. They were accompanied by 43 adult leaders.

At the close of his address, Dr Johnson was presented a pair of 4-H bookends. He accepted them by saying that he now considered himself a member of the 4-H club, and was going to try to live up to the 4-H motto — "To make the best better" — by doing a better job on his 129-acre Virginia farm.

Other speakers on the program were: Dr. Robert P. Daniel, president of Virginia State college, Petersburg; Dr. Edward W. Aiton, national director of 4-H club work; Mrs. Lillie M. Alexander, a Federal Extension program leader; and Miss Dorothy Emerson, associate state 4-H club agent of Maryland.

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EXPLAINS WORK

The work of some of the agencies of the Department of Agriculture was explained by Joseph D. Tonkin of Federal Extension Service, L. J. Washington of the farmers Home Administration, Robert H. Ingram of Commodity Stabilization Service, Fay C. Griffin of Soil Conservation Service, and Jay F. Grant of the Forest Service.

In their own discussions, directed by Dr. Ward F. Porter of the Federal Extension Service, the boys and girls took a long look at some of the changes which are taking place and the higher level of skill now increasingly required. To them it was clear that they would need to train themselves adequately, if they are to be of service in their communities.

When the 4-H'ers weren't listening to speeches or earnestly discussing their problems, they were busy sightseeing. They visited the White House, the Capitol, the Department of Agriculture, the Beltsville Research Center, and Mount Vernon, where they placed a wreath at the tomb of George and Martha Washington. Later they placed a wreath also at the tombs of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery.

JESSE OWENS

Two other highlights of the encampment were a fellowship dinner and an awards program. Jesse Owens addressed the dinner which was attended by a number of outstanding persons, including Assistant Secretary of Labor and Mrs. J. Ernest Wilkins.

During the awards which climaxed the encampment Sunday afternoon, 4-H plaques were presented to Dr. Armour J. Blackburn, dean of students at Howard; President Walker M. Davis of Okolona College, Okolona, Miss.; Miss Blanche D. Harrison, retired district home agent of Virginia; and R. J. Roddy, principal of the Woodstock Training School, Shelby County, Tenn., and manager of the Memphis Tri-State Fair. All of these have made significant contributions to 4-H club work.

The following States were represented at the encampment: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The 43 adult leaders who accompanied the boys and girls met in several professional improvement workshop sessions during the camp.

TUSKEGEE PRESIDENT ADDRESSES 4-H'ERS

Left—Some of the 400-plus 4-H delegates and leaders in the annual state encampment and short course listen to Dr. L. H. Foster, Tuskegee Institute president, who greeted and welcomed the youngsters to the school campus. Right—In his talk to the youths, Dr. Foster challenged them to "not be satisfied with good, but make your contributions the best."

HOME AGENT DIRECTS CRAFT WORK

Mrs. Tommie W. Clark, Baldwin County home agent, directs crafts in annual camp. Many of the 4-H'ers made useful articles to take home.

Survey Shows Farm Income Varies Much Through U. S.

By OVID A. MARTIN
AP Farm Reporter

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ask a group of farmers how much an hour they made from farming last year.

"I made about $3.07 an hour," one might reply.

"I made 18 cents," a second might say.

"I lost the equivalent of $1.16," a third might answer.

All three could easily be correct.

A new Agriculture Department survey of farm returns for 1957 showed that average returns for 1957 showed that average returns to farm operators and members of their families ranged from a minus figure of $1.16 an hour to a plus figure of $3.07 depending on the type of farm.

The class of farming operation that brought a net loss to the operator rather than a gain was sheep ranching in the Southwest, where drought conditions have plagued the industry for years. The average such farm was reported to have lost $3,004, taking into account charges for capital investment.

In fact, these farms were found to have lost an average of $19,528 during the past four years.

The type of family farming that brought the highest return was the irrigated cotton farm in the high plains of Texas. Here the hourly average was $3.07. Its operations were relatively large, averaging 141 acres of cotton under the government's rigid control program.

Not far behind was the wheat-dry pea farms of Idaho and Washington. Their class was said to have brought operators and their families an average of $2.91 for each hour worked. These farms harvested an average of 374 acres. They ranked high in investment in land and equipment - $161,000.

But low in the scale of earnings were the egg farms of New Jersey, with a loss averaging 29 cents for each hour worked, the small cotton farms of eastern Texas with a net return averaging 18 cents an hour and the small cotton farms of the Mississippi Delta with an average of 24 cents.

No figures were given for the hourly earnings of operators of the larger cotton farms of the Delta area beacuse most of the work done on them was by hired labor. The department said these farms earned an average of $2,619 for operators. These farms were reported to have paid out an average of $14,218 each to hired workers and sharecroppers.

The survey showed a relatively wide range of hourly earnings for operators of Midwestern farms.

The hog-beef fattening farms were listed with an average of $1.46 an hour; the hog-beef raising farms an average of 66 cents; the dairy-hog farm in southeastern Minnesota 58 cents; the dairy fram in western Wisconsin 63 cents; and the cash grain farm 66 cents.

Wheat farms, other than those in the Pacific Northwest were reported to have earned from 66 cents an hour for the wheat-livestock farms of the northern Plains to 82 cents for the winter wheat farms of the southern Plains.

Earnings in the southeastern part of the country, where units generally are small, ran below the general average. The tobacco-cotton farms of the coastal plains of North Carolina were said to have made an average of 26 cents. The cotton farms of the Southern Piedmont region earned 33 cents; the tobacco-livestock farms of Kentucky 53 cents; and the peanut-cotton farms of the Southern coastal plains 60 cents.

Considerably better than average hourly earnings were reported for the livestock farms of the West, except the cattle ranches of the northern Plains. The latter made an average of 20 cents, while the cattle ranches of the Rocky Mountain area earned $1.31. Sheep ranches on the Northern Plains earned an average of $1.67, which was in sharp contrast to the losses averaging $1.16 an hour for sheep ranches in the Southwest.

Dairy farms in the populous Northeast were found to have netted an average of 90 cents an hour which was around a third more than that made by Midwestern dairy farms. The Northeastern farms were close to higher paying milk markets.

The report showed, if nothing else, the diversity of American agriculture and the difficulty of discussing it in general terms, particularly when it comes to government farm policies and programs.

BENSON CRITICIZES HOUSE FARM UNIT

Says 'Unattractive' Measure Being Written Endangers Surplus Disposal Law

By WILLIAM M. BLAIR
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, June 5—Ezra Taft Benson accused the House Agriculture Committee today of trying to write "special legislation" in an omnibus farm bill at the expense of some vital programs.

The Secretary of Agriculture asserted that the House committee's "unattractive package" threatened to delay extension of such programs as the surplus disposal law and the special school milk program.

Mr. Benson was asked whether he thought that the committee was trying for political purposes to put together a bill that would draw a Presidential veto. He replied that "such bills have been vetoed before."

The House committee met again today on the catch-all bill, which Mr. Benson told a news conference contained several proposals that he was firmly against. The Secretary declined to name committee members that he thought had been responsible for the situation, which is leading toward another extensive floor fight. He said that his aides had conferred with both Democratic and Republican members about the bill as late as yesterday.

Surplus Law Running Out

His major concern was over any delay in extending the law under which farm surpluses are sold abroad for foreign currencies. This program, Public Law 480, also authorizes donations for welfare and relief purposes. The program will expire June 30 unless Congress acts. The Senate passed a two-year extension and authorized the use of an additional $3,000,000,999 worth of surplus for the period but the House committee intends to put it in the omnibus farm bill.

Mr. Benson viewed the House committee's work as an effort to "write special legislation for a number of farm commodities" and inclusion of the disposal program as "sweetening up the omnibus bill" in an effort to get it enacted.

"It certainly is contrary to the best interests of our farm people," he said. He asserted that "opportunities were being lost and have been lost" to sell surplus goods abroad because the existing authorization was "pretty well depleted."

"We feel that to hold it up will mean more delay, more loss of markets, loss of sales and could cause a new build-up in surpluses," he said.

The Secretary said that if the program President Eisenhower recommended to Congress in January were reported to Congress "it would have a good chance to go through."

The House committee has talked at the program although it has written some of it into the commodity provisions of the omnibus bill. The Administration's program calls for a lower floor on price supports for five basic crops and elimination of "escalators," by which price supports for these products rise automatically as surpluses are reduced.

Mr. Benson also seeks discretion to increase Federal acreage allotments on the basic crops—corn, wheat, cotton, rice and peanuts.

The bill before the House committee would eliminate the escalator on a single crop, rice, for three years. For cotton, the bill would give growers a chance to continue the present program or take a lower price support and increase their acreage.

Earlier Mr. Benson denied before a Senate subcommittee that he had engineered a "master plan" to destroy the Rural Electrification Administration. He appeared in opposition to a bill that would take responsibility for R. E. A. from him and lodge it solely in the R. E. A. Administrator.

The charge had been made by Clyde T. Ellis, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Estimate Cotton Crop At 11,583,000 Bales

WASHINGTON—(UPI)—The Agriculture Department yesterday estimated the 1958 cotton crop at 11,583,000 bales, up 6 per cent from last year's harvest.

The first cotton production estimate of the year compares withn 10,964,000 bales last year and the 10-year average output of 14,136,000 bales.

Although this year's estimate is below last year's output, there is no danger of a cotton shortage in the United States. There is a carryover of about 8,700,000 bales. The carryover plus estimated 1958 production will meet consumption demands, both foreign and domestic, and leave a large surplus.

The department estimated cotton yields will average 466 pounds of lint per acre on the 11,928,000 acres expected to be harvested. Last year's yields averaged 388 pounds an acre. The 10 - year average yields were 317 pounds.

Following is the estimated cotton production, in bales, for major producing states, compared with 1957 harvests:

State	Aug. 1 estimate	1957 crop
North Carolina	210,000	231,000
South Carolina	260,000	344,000
Georgia	300,000	396,000
Tennessee	405,000	415,000
Alabama	400,000	530,000
Mississippi	1,040,000	1,081,000
Missouri	285,000	179,000
Arkansas	1,040,000	981,000
Louisiana	375,000	348,000
Oklahoma	255,000	263,000
Texas	4,150,000	3,632,000
New Mexico	280,000	236,000
Arizona	880,000	763,000
California	1,675,000	1,537,000
Other states (Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky and Nevada.)	28,000	28,000

NO. 3 IN A SERIES

Future For Agriculture Encouraging In South

Jackson Daily News
Jackson Mississippi
6-3-58
P 8

The outlook is bright for agriculture in the South.

So opines John A. Sibley, chairman of the board for the Trust Company of Georgia and a widely-respected agricultural spokesman. In a recent speech before the Southern Research Institute in Birmingham, Sibley appraised Dixie's progress toward wider diversification and came to some happy conclusions.

"Despite present problems and difficulties, the future of agriculture in the Southeast is encouraging and favorable. The strength of agriculture in this section is the temperate climate, ample rainfall, plenteous rivers and streams, the diversity and variety of its crops, and the extent of its great forest resources," he said.

He praised farmers in the South for their willingless to adapt to new conditions. Sibley noted the raising of broilers is relatively new in the Southeast but six states, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, are already producing 456 million broilers, 35 per cent of the nation's output.

Sibley pointed to the South's forest resources as a reservoir of potential wealth.

"In a period of rapid industrialization, the South's forest domain is the key to continued expansion," he said. "Her forests are now producing 51 per cent of the national annual growth of sawtimber and 48 per cent of its growing stock, and are attracting to her borders almost daily important wood-based industries."

"It is estimated our forests today are producing less than one-half of their potential. This means this valuable renewable resource, by proper care and protection, may be increased by 100 per cent.

"Our forests constitute a storehouse of valuable substances—the raw materials of large and expanding industries—from which 200 different products, varying from high explosives to the softest sponges, are now manufactured. In the development of our forest resources, the South has certain distinct advantages such as the accessibility of timber, which reduces the cost of harvesting; favorable climate, which permits year-round woodland operations; water, highways and railroads are available for transportation; sources of energy such as gas and coal are abundant and well distributed; and in addition, the labor supply of the South is ample, intelligent and turns out work well.

"These great advantages are bringing to the South plants for the manufacture of chemical cellulose, man - made textiles, and pulp and paper as well as other wood-based industries. The location of these mills in the South gives to the southern farmer an entirely new source of cash income that is adding greatly to his prosperity and is underpinning and increasing the value of his lands."

Sibley noted the progress of livestock production in the South.

"In 1929 farm income in these six states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee) from livestock and livestock products amounted to only $219,990,000, whereas, in 1956 the income from that source had increased $1,174,584,000, over 400 per cent," he declared.

"Farming is no longer shackled in this region to a one-crop cotton economy but is undergoing wide diversification.

"This change is for the better. This change I believe puts southern agriculture on a firmer and more stable basis and, at the same time, improves our land use by taking land of a clean-cultivated crop and putting it in protective pasture and other cover crops."

Scientific farming and increased mechanization have boosted productivity in the South and Sibley predicted more of the same. He said the number of farm tractors in use in the Southeast increased from 33,000 in 1939 to 412,000 in 1954 and other farm machinery multiplied in like production. Predicting even greater mechanization, Sibley also foresaw a wider acceptance of scientific and irrigation practices.

"Our streams and ponds will afford opportunity for widespread sprinkler irrigation, which together with the application of nitrogen and other fertilizer elements will contribute greatly to production in the area, especially as agriculture becomes more scientific and specialized. In fact, the use of irrigation may become one of the most important agricultural developments in the region during the next 25 years," Sibley declared.

Dr. Mordecai Johnson Tells 4-H'ers That Farmres Have Big Role in World Peace

Biloxi Herald
P 3
6-29-58

WASHINGTON.—Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard university and host to the 11th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp, August 10-18, told the delegates Sunday that farmers have an important role to play in the achievement of world peace.

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South's Acreage Yield To Be Tops

Expect 36 Million Bushel Corn Harvest In Mississippi

WASHINGTON (AP) — Crop yields this year may equal any previous year.

But total acreage harvested, said the Department of Agriculture yesterday, is expected to be slightly larger than 1957.

Unless there are late-season handicaps, average acre yields, all crops considered, should pull ahead of last year's record.

The acreage for harvest, the yield per acre and production, respectively, of important crops by major-producing states included:

CORN

Mississippi 1,443,000; 25 and 36,075,000.

WINTER WHEAT

Mississippi 118,099; 21 and 2,478,000; Arkansas 117,000; 22 and 2,574,000.

OATS

Mississippi 126,000; 33 and 4,158,000.

Soybeans (Acreage for harvest only) Mississippi 859,000; Arkansas 1,920,000.

RICE

Mississippi 40,000 acres for harvest; 2,700 pounds per acre and production 1,080,000 hundredweight; Arkansas 337,000; 3,100 and 10,447,000; Louisiana 412,000; 2,900 and 11,948,000; Texas 380,000, 3,300 and 12,540,000; California 258,000; 4,200 and 10,836,000.

ORANGES (Production only of 1957-58 crop)

Louisiana 205,000 boxes.

SUGARCANE

Louisiana 248,000 acres for harvest; 23.5 tons per acre and production 5,828,000 tons; Florida 35,800; 42 and 1,504,000.

SWEET POTATOES

Mississippi 22,000 acres for harvest; 45 hundredweight per acre and production 990,000 hundredweight; Louisiana 85,000; 58 and 4,930,000.

Farmers Leaving Land Despite Rise in Income

By the Associated Press

American farmers again are abandoning their acres in great numbers. Latest Census Bureau figures show that a long-term decline in the number of farm workers has been resumed after a four-year halt.

In the first six months of this year, farm employment average d5,580,000, compared with 5,924,000 in the same period a year ago.

The recession apparently can't be blamed for this. Farm income is up and the Agriculture Department said only last week that the prospect is for total 1958 crop production "equaling any previous year."

Over the full 12 months of 1957, farm employment averaged 6.2 million. The Census Bureau's annual report on the labor force, made public last night, said this actually marked a resumption of the downward trend.

Farm employment in 1956 averaged 6.5 million—a level which had been maintained since 1953. Averages for the first half of the year are lower than for the full year because farm work picks-up in summer and fall.

The census report said all of the 300,000 decline in 1957 was accounted for by self-employed farmers and their unpaid family helpers. While owners of small farms left the land in increasing numbers, there was an increase in employment of farm hands. This pointed up a trend toward larger farms producing ever-bigger crops through scientific growing and harvestin techniques.

119,000 Fewer Persons At Work On Southern Farms

While farm employment for the nation as a whole was up 308,000 in June compared with May, it was down by 17,000 in the South and under the June 1957 employment figure by 119,000, the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimates.

Wet weather and reduced acreage of cotton and other crops in the South are said to be responsible for the employment decline. The lower crop acreage is a result of heavy participation in the Soil Bank program.

Total farm employment in the South stood at 3,818,000 during the survey week of June 22-28, compared with 3,937,000 during the corresponding week a year ago.

However, wage rates were up slightly from a year ago in most of the Southern States. For example in North Carolina the rate was 10 cents a day above the $3.60 paid last year, and in Arkansas it was up 30 cents from $5.00 a day. But in South Carolina the rate was 5 cents per day lower than the $3.95 paid in June 1957.

Offset Loss Of Cotton Acreage

By SHERMAN BRISCOE

USDA Information Specialist

WASHINGTON — Many farm families of the South, like others o fthe region, are turning increasingly to alternative cash crops as the answer to their Number One problem—reduced cotton acreage. However, some with too few acres are unable to make the shift.

This is how things looked to me during my recent farm visits in South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. State and County Extension Service agents took me to see a total of 16 families in these four States, and we passed the farms of scores more.

The families visited represent a sample of those who have responded to the advice and counsel of extension workers and are improving their farming methods, as well as adopting alternative cash crops to help make up for their loss of cotton income.

Most of the farmers I visited are raising hogs for market. Some sell as many as 200 head a year, but they have their fingers crossed, fearing over-production and a decline in price. A few have beef cattle, some are in dairying, others are marketing vegetables, three have off-farm jobs, and some in South Carolina are trying their hand at raising Turkish tobacco.

Five of the farmers forgot about cotton, at least for this year, and have put their land in the Soil Bank to help reduce the surplus. Cotton on hand in the United States or carried over from last year's crop is expected to total 8.7 million bales on August 1. Of this amount, about 4.4 million bales are in government storage. Annual consumption and U. S. cotton exports are expected to total 13.6 million bales in the 1957-58 marketing year.

But despite the surplus, many operators whose farms are geared mainly to cotton production are continuing to plant their full acreage allotment in order to provide for their families.

Repeatedly, agents told me that small farmers with too few acres are really up against it, especially if they have large families. "These farmers just don't have enough resources to establish alternative enterprises, such as hogs, cattle, or poultry," the agents explained.

Continuing, the agents pointed out that some of these farmers would try raising vegetables for market, but there often are no nearby outlets. They added that many are seeking off-farm employment without much success.

Partly because of the lack of nonfarm job opportunities, and partly because of improved family relations, one observes an increased number of father and son and brother and brother partnerships.

I visited one family which was trying to eke out a living on 49 acres. The father and son have seven children at home between them. They are following all the recommended practices, but they just don't have enough land.

However, a number of families I visited have licked the problem of reduced cotton acreage. "I just as soon not raise any cotton at all," said Leroy Ellois of New Roads, La. And to prove it, he is marketing about $100 worth of vegetables wholesale every week.

Johnny Burkhalter of Prentiss, Miss., says some years in the past he has planted as much as 100 acres of cotton. This year he is down to 15. The rest of his 35-acre allotment is in the Soil Bank, and he is concentrating on improving his pastures for his 300 head of beef cattle.

Near Dothan, Ala., Foy Lee Callen told me, "I am not planting any cotton this year; my whole allotment is in the Soil Bank." Out in his pastures were 60 head

of Landrace, Duroc, and Yorkshire hogs. He has already sold 35 head, and expects to sell 40 to 50 more. "I get a premium for my hogs because they are meat-type," he said proudly.

Robert Mattison of Anderson, S. C., is one of 24 colored farmers in his county who have turned to Turkish tobacco to supplement their cotton income. Most of them plant from one to five acres of the tobacco. It brings them about $1,000 an acre. In addition, Mr. Mattison has a full-time job in town at a service station.

Yes, some of the farmers seem to have found an answer to their problem of reduced cotton acreage. And they are enthusiastic about their new crops and their improved farming practices. They tell you right off, "My farm has been mapped by a Soil Conservation Service technician and my soil tested."

They talk about rotating their crops, building terraces, raising grade and purebred animals, and trying out improved varieties of seed.

One gets the feeling that although some farmers are having it tough because their farms are too small or unproductive, others are moving ahead, laying the foundation for a better day in agriculture.

FARM BILL EXCHANGES PROP CUTS FOR ACRES

By HAROLD DAVIS
Special to Atlanta Journal-Constitution

WASHINGTON — The farm measure finally passed by Congress is referred to on Capitol Hill as a "survival bill."

It won't make the farmers prosperous; it will let them survive.

Washington is no longer sympathetic to the farmer. That statement is broad and sweeping, but it is borne out by the record.

The House Agriculture Committee tried five different times this session to get a farm bill through the House. Once, the committee chairman couldn't get the legislation out of committee. Once, Congress passed a proviso and the President vetoed it. Two more times, the membership of the House members refused to accept the measures recommended to them by their agriculture committee.

In the Senate, the record was equally star-crossed.

Benson the Villain

Most farm belt senators and representatives will tell you the villain of this piece is Ezra Taft Benson, secretary of agriculture.

Mr. Benson does not believe in supporting prices at a high level. His plan is to "return to freedom," which means take off some of the government controls, reduce support prices, and let the farmer run risks in marketing his products.

This year, Mrs. Benson had a powerful ace in the hole.

Unless Congress passed some sort of farm bill, Benson had authority to cut cotton acreages about 20 per cent and also to take large acreages of rice out of production. What's more, he was set to do it.

In the Midwest, corn farmers signalled that they were on their last legs, and if Congress went home without a bill, they would be ready for mayhem.

Benson was in a position to tell Congress he would ease the acreage strain if they would reduce support prices.

That is what Congress agreed to—with great reluctance.

The farm bill prevents reduction of cotton acreage below 16,000,000 acres in 1959. In 1958, the acreage was 17,500,000, but had the bill not passed, Benson could have taken it all the way down to 14,000,000.

SECRETARY BENSON

The bill also protects a farmer with less than 10 acres allotment from any cut at all.

Cotton farmers are given a double-barrelled choice of what they want to do next year.

Under plan A, those who keep within their assigned allotments enjoy a support price of 80 per cent of parity in 1959 and 75 per cent in 1960.

Under plan B, farmers may plant 40 per cent above their assigned allotments and take a support of 65 per cent of parity in 1959 and 60 per cent in 1960.

The bill forestalls a drastic rice acreage cut and provides a bottom of 75 per cent support for 1959 and 1960. But in 1961, the support can be reduced to 70 per cent of parity; in 1962 and beyond, to 65 per cent.

Corn farmers will vote Dec. 15 on whether they want to go on under their present plan or take a new program set forth in the bill.

The new plan would support corn at about $1.14 a bushel. Parity for corn is $1.76. The support price this year was $1.36.

(Previously, the law said support prices for these basic crops couldn't be set below 75 per cent of parity.)

FARM UPTURN FINDS BENSON STILL IN TROUBLE

By JOHN D. MORRIS
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, March 29—For the farmer, there's a ray of sunshine in the gloom-laden mass of current economic news. So far, at least, his lot seems to be improving while the general recession deepens.

The latest official reports on farm prices, income, purchasing power and the like all tend to bear this out. They are likely to provide substantial punch for a veto message that President Eisenhower is expected to send Congress this week.

The target of the probable veto is a Democratic bill, passed with considerable Republican support, for a one-year freeze of farm-price supports at levels no lower than those of 1957.

It has been assumed that such a veto would seal the doom of many Republican candidates for Congress in the elections next November and help give the Democrats the biggest majorities enjoyed since the New Deal era.

New Figures

But if the trend of farm prices and income should continue, it could have the opposite effect. Farmers might become convinced that the flexible price-support policies espoused by Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, are better for them, after all, than the rigidly high props advocated by Democrats.

These fresh figures off the statistical presses issued yesterday, provide the most impressive evidence yet of an upturn in the farm economy:

Prices—The index of prices received by farmers increased 4 per cent during the month that ended at mid-March. This was the sharpest increase for any month since February of 1951. The March figure—263 per cent of the 1910-14 average—was 11 per cent above that of a year ago and the highest since May of 1953.

Costs—The index of prices paid by farmers (including interest, taxes and wages) edged up 1 per cent to 304 per cent of the 1910-14 average. While this was the highest on record, the pace of the rise was about the same as that of the last few months. The March figure was 3 per cent above that of a year ago.

Purchasing Power—The parity ratio, as this yardstick of the farmer's buying power is called, jumped 5 per cent to 87 per cent of the 1910-14 average. (Expressed another way, this meant that the level of prices the farmer was receiving was 87 per cent of the level of the prices paid.). The ratio was 7 per cent above March of last year and at the highest point since April of 1955, when it stood at the same level.

If's, And's, But's

Other indicators of the farmer's economic position provide a mixed picture for 1957, the latest period covered, and are subject to some if's, and's and but's.

The 1957 income-per-person of farm families rose 10 per cent to $993—2 per cent above the previous record year of 1951. But $309 of the $993 came from non-farm sources such as part-time work in town. And the farm population declined 1,861,000, giving those left on the farms a bigger slice of the pie.

Farmers' net realized income in 1957—the amount available for spending after all production expenses are paid—dropped 4 per cent. But this did not take into account the fact that a wet fall delayed marketing and postponed until 1958 the realization of some income. If farmers had sold what they raised before the year ended, their net realized income would have increased 4 per cent.

By nearly all economic measuring rods, despite the recent signs of improvement, the farmer is still in worse shape than he was when the Eisenhower Administration took office in 1953.

Drop Noted

Opponents of the Benson flexible-support policies cite such facts as the following:

HOW U.S. FARMERS ARE DOING

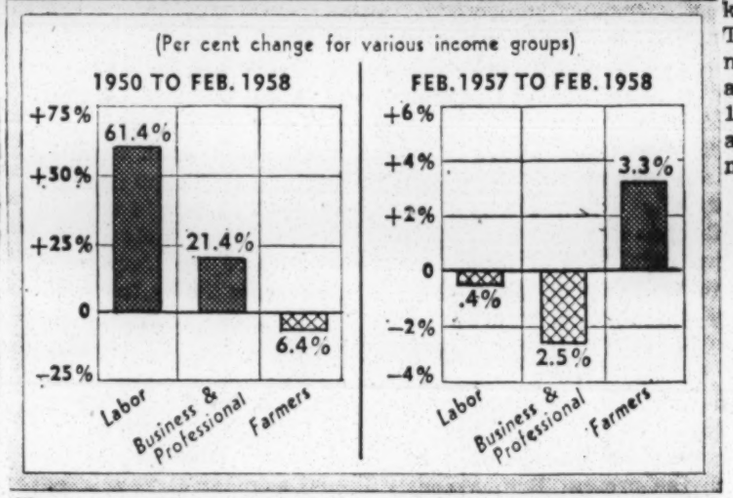


Chart measures change in personal income of three groups as sectors of the economy, thus does not take into account increase in labor force or decrease in farmers.

(1) Net realized income from farming declined from $17 billion in 1952 to $13.9 billion in 1957.

(2) Net income of farm families from all sources dropped from $23.1 billion to $20.2 billion.

(3) While total per-capita income of farm families rose from $953 in 1952 to $993 in 1957, the part derived from farming dropped from $702 to $684.

(4) Farm prices, by the mid-March index, were still 8½ per cent below 1952 levels and costs were 5½ per cent higher. The parity ratio had dropped from 100 in 1952 to 87 at mid-March.

Mr. Benson contends that his flexible support program cannot be blamed because it was not until last year that the law allowed "some real flexibility." And he notes that farm prices have increased since then.

If farm voters can be sold by November on the idea that the Benson policies and rising prices actually do have a cause-and-effect relationship, President Eisenhower's expected veto of the support-freeze bill could help rather than hurt Republicans in the elections.

Recession Effects

Such a development is certainly conceivable if not probable, but its realization will of course depend on whether the farm situation continues to improve in the months ahead. This, in turn, will depend largely on the course of the general recession.

So far, demand for farm products has held up well. Retail food store sales have been increasing during the recession and are now about 8 per cent above a year ago.

This is mainly due to the fact that the slump has not yet had much of an impact on personal income of consumers, which has declined only about 1½ per cent from the mid-1957 peak. But a prolonged recession would inevitably depress personal income and lower farm prices.

It was doubtless with such uncertainties in mind that many farm-state Republicans supported the support-freeze bill and joined Democrats in urging the President to sign it.

Another compelling factor is Secretary Benson's decision to lower dairy price supports. If the order goes into effect Tuesday as scheduled, prices of dairy products almost certainly will soon decline, to the increased aggravation of a large segment of the farm vote.

Regardless of whether the dairy order reverses the overall upward trend of farm economic indicators, which would be even worse for Republicans from the political standpoint, dairy farmers would probably vent their anger at the polls in November.

Democrats nevertheless are keeping their fingers crossed. They suspect that Mr. Benson may turn around after the veto and raise supports, as he did in 1956 after the President vetoed a Democratic bill to raise minimum support levels.

Benson Favors New Cotton Plan

Action Boosts Chances For Bill Giving Farmer Choice Of Acreage, Props

By MORRIS CUNNINGHAM
From The Commercial Appeal Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 25. — A "farmer's choice" cotton plan drafted by the Senate Agriculture Committee was endorsed Wednesday by Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson.

The provision is included in an omnibus farm bill approved by the committee Tuesday.

Mr. Benson's endorsement substantially enhanced the bill's chances of enactment at this session of Congress.

House Bill Denounced

His endorsement was in sharp contrast to his denouncement a day earlier of an omnibus farm bill of the House Agriculture Committee. He called the House bill a "catch-all" and an "economic monstrosity."

The House Rules Committee is slated to meet Thursday to clear the House bill for floor action. In view of Administration endorsement of the Senate bill, it appeared possible sponsors may defer action.

The Senate bill, covering fewer subjects than the House bill, would apply to cotton, rice, corn and feed grains. Generally, it is less generous than the House bill.

Cotton farmers would be offered a choice in 1959 and 1960 of their share of a 16-million-acre allotment and price supports of about 81 per cent of parity, or a 40 per cent increase in acreage and supports at about 66 per cent of parity. After 1960, supports would be set at 90 per cent of average market prices, with a floor of 30 cents a pound on middling one inch.

Provisions For Rice

The rice provision would suspend the "escalator" clause in the present law for 1959 and 1960, permitting Mr. Benson to set price supports as low as 75 per cent of parity. In turn, acreage allotments would be maintained. After 1960, supports would be at 90 per cent of average market prices with a floor of $4 per hundredweight.

Unless new legislation is enacted this year, cotton and rice farmers face a drastic cut in acreage next year.

Agriculture Department Says It Will Move Against Bias

WASHINGTON — The U. S. Department of Agriculture has informed the NAACP Washington bureau that the Forest Service will include an anti-discrimination clause in all future special-use permits and concession agreements "of a public service nature."

This was announced here by J. Francis Pohlhaus, counsel of the Washington bureau.

Mr. Pohlhaus said a letter he received last month from E. L. Peterson, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, asserted that "it is the policy of this Department not to countenance racial discrimination contrary to law, and we are willing to take steps as necessary to remove any question regarding the application of this policy."

CLAUSE SPECIFIED

Mr. Peterson's letter, dated April 7, specified that the following wording will be used in the Forest Service's anti-discrimination clause:

"The permittee and his employees shall not discriminate because of race, religion, color, or national origin against any person by refusing to furnish such person any accommodation, facility, service, or privilege offered to or enjoyed by the general public. Nor shall the permittee or his employees publicize the accommodations, facilities, services, or privilages in any manner that would directly or inferentially reflect upon or question the acceptability of the patronage of any person because of race, religion, color, or national origin. The permittee shall include and require compliance with a provision similar to the one contained in this requirement in any subcontract made with respect to the operators authorized hereunder."

Mr. Pohlhaus comented: "This brings the Department of Agriculture into line with the previously adopted policies of the Department of the Interior and Corps of Engineers." He noted that he had written to the Department on March 3.

Farmers' Feelings Mixed On 'Vertical Integration'

By OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON (AP) — A relatively new term is making the rounds of agriculture nowadays striking fear among some producers, and hope among others.

The term is "vertical integration." It refers to the unification or coordination under one roof of two or more steps in the process of producing, marketing, processing and distribution of farm products.

Traditionally, production has been separated from any of the other processes. There has been little connection between the producers and the processor.

But in recent years, there has been a sharp trend toward coordination of several of these processes under one management usually in the hands of a non farm business. The latter supplies much of the capital, makes the production and marketing decisions, and pays the farmer a share of the profits or piece-production rates.

This development has gone far in the chicken broiler industry.

No longer is the production of the nation's supply of poultry meat spread among several million farms. Today about 28,000 highly specialized farms—most of them operating in an integrated system — produce about 90 per cent of the broiler supply.

A centralized management unit — usually a feed supply concern — furnishes the baby chicks, feeds and specialists to show individual farmers how to care for the chickens. The farmers have available the latest in technical know-how.

This system long has featured production of some fruit and vegetable crops. There are signs it may take a strong hold of such farming enterprises as production of hogs, feeding of beef cattle, eggs and some crops.

The management unit and the individual farmers are held together by contract, verbal agreement or through membership in an organization, such as a cooperative.

Some farmers express fear that the integration process may in time reduce producers to roles of agricultural laborers. Some also fear that the process, by expediting adoption of latest in agricultural technology, will speed the demise of the family-type farm.

But others — particularly some having difficulty making a go of farming — see in it an opportunity to improve their positions.

Orlin J. Scoville, head of the farming efficiency section of the Agricultural Research Administration, sees integration bringing vast changes in farming.

He told a recent meeting of the Newspaper Farm Editors Assn. that farms will become more specialized and the number of highly diversified general farms will decline.

Scoville said small subsistence farms will tend to disappear, particularly in livestock production.

"Perhaps the most difficult question raised by integration" he said, "is, 'Will the farmer be better off?' "

"Some farmers who have had limited access to capital, or those who have not kept up with technological improvements, may be better off," he said.

"Farmers who now operate at a high level of efficiency may be worse off if integration increases output and lowers prices, although their ability to maintain effective bargaining power and to retain for themselves a share of increased production efficiency will lessen these effects of integration."

The farm expert said he believed it unlikely that many farm enterprises could be integrated to a point at which supply could be controlled to achieve a monopoly price.

Scoville said he believed that the most usual kind of integrated farm unit will be a production unit, organized around the labor force of family, with the family operating it under some kind of lease or contract.

Near 95,000 Non White Farmers Quit Since 1950

WASHINGTON, D. C. (ANP)—Nearly 95,000 non white operators quit farming in the South between 1950 and 1954, according to an analysis of the 1955 Census of Agriculture made by tht Farm Population Section of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Between the spring of 1950 and the fall of 1954, the number of non-white farm operators in the 17 Southern States dropped from 662,321 to 467,770, or by 94,551.

The sharpest drops precentagewist took place in Oklahoma and Delaware. In the former, the number of non-white farmers declined from 9,018 to 5,282, or by 41 percent, in the latter the decrease was from 392 to 244, or by 38 percent. The smallest drop percentage wise occurred in North Carolina and West Virginia. Each lost only 7.8 percent. However, North Carolina has 66,908 non-white farm operators, while West Virginia has only 343.

In numbers, the largest drop occurred in Mississippi, where 22,000 quit farming; Louisiana was second with a loss of 13,000; and Alabama, Arkansas and Georgia each lost 11,000.

Perhaps most of these left agriculture altogether for jobs in towns and cities; but some undoubtedly remained as tractor drivers or other hired farm workers.

Cotton Crop Is Estimated At 10.9 Millions

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government estimates the 1957 cotton crop at 10,964,000 bales with a farm value 23 per cent below that of 1956. Bad weather caused a sharp production decline.

The Agriculture Department said the 1957 crop was planted after heavy late spring rains; and was cultivated and harvested or salvaged between showers and floods. Losses of unharvested cotton were described as heavy, especially in Mississippi.

Last year's production figure compared with 500 pounds gross weight in 1956 and 13,669,000 for the 10-year (1946-55) average production of cottonseed was estimated at 4,609,000 tons compared with 5,407,000 form the 1956 crop.

These estimates were reported by the Agriculture Department on the basis of ginnings for the season. The agency put the combined value of lint and cottonseed at $1,854,000,000 for 548 million dollars less than that of the previous year's production.

FARM WORKERS DECLINE SHOWN

Trend Is Resumed After Four-Year Halt

WASHINGTON (AP)—American farmers again are abandoning their acres in great numbers. Latest Census Bureau figures show that a long-term decline in the number of farm workers has been resumed after a four-year halt.

In the first six months of this year, farm employment averaged 5,580,000 compared with 5,924,000 in the same period a year ago.

The recession apparently can't be blamed for this. Farm income is up and the Agriculture Department said only last week that the prospect is for total 1958 crop production equalling any previous year.

Over the full 12 months of 1957, farm employment averaged 6,200,000. The Census Bureau's annual report on the labor force, made public Sunday, said this actually marked a resumption of the downward trend.

Farm employment in 1956 averaged 6½ million — a level which had been maintained since 1953. Averages for the first half of the year are lower for the full year because farm work picks up in summer and fall.

The census report said all of the 300,000 decline in 1957 was accounted for by self - employed farmers and their unpaid family helpers. While owners of small farms left the land in increasing numbers, there was an increase in employment of farm hands. This pointed up a trend toward larger farms producing ever-bigger crops through scientific growing and harvesting techniques.

The census report noted that employment in all fields reached a record high of 67,200,000 last July.

Quick Action On Cotton Requested

Daily Home, Talladega, Ala. June 7-18-58

WASHINGTON (AP)— A group of Southern Senators asked Congress for speedy action on cotton legislation.

The senators stressed various proposals in testimony before a Senate Agriculture Subcommittee considering cotton legislation.

Sen. Stennis (D-Miss.) emphasized the need for a bill which could prevent a further cut in the national cotton acreage allotment for 1959. He said the cut likely will be 25 per cent unless congress acts.

Sens. Hill and Sparkman, Alabama Democrats, urged additional funds for the soil bank program to meet an unexpectedly large signup by cotton farmers. They also joined Stennis in asking action to prevent future acreage cuts.

Sen. Yarborough (D-Tex.) said something must be done to "preserve a way of life" for America.

He referred to the constant decline in the number of small farm families in the United States particularly in Texas. The reduction, he said, has resulted from continued cuts in cotton acreage allotments.

Yarborough said he is working on a bill which would permit farmers to increase their cotton acreage allotments by 10 per cent this year. His proposal also would provide that instead of receiving payments for putting acreage under the soil bank, farmers might be given equivalent loans to provide them with operating funds.

Yarborough also endorsed a bill by Sen. Eastland (D-Miss) and others to let farmers increase their cotton acreage allotments 30 per cent if they accept a lower support price for their production. Farmers getting the acreage increase could not participate in the soil bank. The Eastland bill is aimed at heading off a shortage of higher quality cottons.

Sen. Kefauver (D-Tenn.) said the situation in his state is similar to that in Texas "only worse" and that quick is needed by Congress.

Farmers vote June 20 on wheat quotas

Birmingham, Ala. News p. 1 p. 3 June 6-15-58

WASHINGTON, June 14—(AP)—Farmers vote June 20 on the question of continuing production controls on wheat—controls that do not work.

By this, it is meant that they fail to achieve the goal set for them when written into law in 1938—that of balancing production with markets.

Federal controls on wheat have been in effect every year since 1954. Yet surplus stocks may set a new record high this year.

Specifically, growers in 38 designated commercial states will ballot in an Agriculture Department referendum on continuing marketing quotas. They would be designed to limit marketings from the 1959 crop to the wheat grown on 55 million acres apportioned among growers under a legal formula.

Excess sales would be subject to penalties of around $1.05 a bushel, which, on the basis of present prospects, would be about 60 per cent of the market price.

It is pretty well taken for granted by farm officials that farmers will cast the necessary two-thirds majority necessary to make the quotas operative. Last year the margin for controls on this year's crop was 86 per cent.

Drop in Farm Population Raises Per Capita Income

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution p. 1 June 6-15-58

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (AP)—The Agriculture Department estimated today that the per capita farm income rose to a record $99 last year—almost entirely because there were fewer farmers.

The department said the per capita income figure was $91 — or 10 per cent higher than the 1956 average of $902. Total net farm income actually declined 4 per cent, however.

The department said it was for the individual farmer to show a bigger return in the face of an overall drop in agricultural income last year because nearly two million persons had left the nation's farms.

The estimates were contained in the department's publication, "The Demand and Price Situation." It showed that farmers' net realized income for 1957 totaled $11,500,000,000, down 4 per cent from 1956.

The department said the decline in realized net income — cash money left after paying production costs — "was more than had been anticipated previously."

The record per capita income figure was obtained by dividing the farm population of 20,396,000 (down from 22,257,000 in 1956) in to a total farm income of $20,200,000,000.

This total income included $11,500,000,000 realized net income, 600 million dollars in inventory changes, $1,800,000,000 paid in wages to hired hands on farms, and $6,300,000,000 received by farm people from non-farm sources.

The realized net income included about a billion dollars in direct payments from the government for participation in the soil bank, wool, agricultural conservation, and sugar programs.

The per capita income of farmers from farm sources was $684, compared with $601 in 1956. The per capita income from non-farm sources — mostly from off-farm jobs — was $309 in 1957. In 1956 it was $301.

Senate Bars Constitution Boosting of Cotton Acres

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution June 3-11-58

WASHINGTON, (AP)—The Senate rejected Monday night an attempt to boost this year's cotton acreage.

Cotton state senators led by Sen. Ellender (D-La) failed to win consideration of a proposal under which farmers could overplant their 1958 allotments by 30 per cent if they withdrew from the soil bank program and waived price supports on the increased acreage.

Thirty-six senators voted to suspend the rules to take up the proposal, but 48 voted against it. A two-thirds favorable vote is necessary to suspend the rules.

SOIL BANK

The Senate approved, without debate, an additional appropriation of 250 million dollars for soil bank benefits this year. That raises the total available to 750 million dollars an amount already approved by the House.

Earlier Monday, House farm law writers put fresh steam behind the congressional drive to block Agriculture Secretary Benson from slashing 1958 farm price supports.

Democrats and Republicans on two House agriculture subcommittees overwhelmingly endorsed a Senate bill that would freeze all farm price supports at not less than 1957 levels.

ENDORSE BILL

The House agriculture cotton subcommittee headed by Rep. Gatins (D-Ark) endorsed the bill 5 to 0 with one member voting present. The agriculture rice subcommittee headed by Rep. Thompson (D-Tex) endorsed it 4 to 0.

The bipartisan Senate bill, which is scheduled for Senate action this week, would block Benson's plans to cut dairy supports April 1. It also would prevent scheduled cuts in wheat and feed grain supports later this year.

Mid-South Planters Shared $613,838,570 Soil Bank Fund

By MORRIS CUNNINGHAM
From The Commercial Appeal Washington Bureau

Commercial Appeal June 3, 1958

WASHINGTON, May 26. — John W. Baughman Farms Co. of Liberal, Kan., collected $322,012 from the Administration's soil bank program last year for not planting 27,239 acres of wheat.

Garvey Farms of Colby, Kan., collected $278,189 for not planting 22,779 acres of wheat.

These big wheat-farming corporations topped 1957 participants in the soil bank program, an official list obtained from the Agriculture Department showed Monday.

Harris Ranches of Sahaurita, Ariz., was third with $209,701 collected for not planting 1,666 acres of cotton.

A total of 3,422 farms received payments of $10,000 or more. The Government paid out $613,838,570 to 1,260,000 participants. In return, 21,354,018 acres of crop allotments were idled.

Louisiana Firm High

The biggest payment to a Mid-South producer went to J. H. Williams of Natchitoches, La. He received $120,088 for not planting 1,682 acres of cotton allotments.

Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman was second, receiving $71,000 for idling 1,000 acres of cotton allotments.

Other Mid-South recipients who received more than $25,000 included:

O. L. Garmon Jr., Marks, Miss., $67,097; Lee Wilson & Co., Wilson, Ark., $64,851; J. T. Fargason & Son, Lyon, Miss., $63,960; Dan Seligman, Shaw, Miss., $59,992; Allen & Ritch, Lyon, $55,354; R. A. Ingram, Leland, Miss., $47,070; J. H. Hill, Indianola, Miss., $44,904; Woolfolk Farms, Tunica, Miss., $40,500; Lorwood Plantation, Parma, Miss., $40,399; Norfleet and Allen, Dundee, Miss., $40,255; J. E. Crain, Wilson, $38,712; E. B. Belshe, Round Pond, Ark., $38,212.

R. N. Hopson, Clarksdale, Miss., $36,403; R. D. Wilmans & Sons, Inc., Diaz, Ark. $36,161; King and Anderson, Inc., Clarksdale, $34,884; Stimson Veneer & Lbr. Tr., Dumas, Ark., $34,785; Tillar & Co., Tillar, Ark., $34,450; Fontenot and Fontenot, Hollandale, Miss., $32,827; Hubert Christopher, Round Pond, $32,506; Henry Craft, Proctor, Ark., $31,456; H. T. Bond & Co., Shelby, Miss. $31,254; Evelyn W. Thudium, Lake Village, Ark., $30,921; Adolph Ronschler, Stuttgart, Ark., $30,754.

Other Recipients

Parker Brothers, Dundee, $30,713; Hegar Brothers, Shaw, $30,474; Ralph Bunch, West Helena, Ark., $28,422; Triumph Farm, Merigold, Miss., $28,323; J. B. and F. B. McKee, Friars Point, Miss., $27,900; Mallory Farms, Chatfield, Ark., $27,849; Earl Wells & Son, Helena, $27,621; A. B. Nickey, Memphis, $26,902; W. M. Nickey, Memphis, $26,902; Harry Stephens, West Helena, $26,796; John L. Zumwalt, Hollandale, $26,796.

Maynard Brothers, Clarksdale, $26,598; N. R. Hosey, Marvell, Ark., $26,525; H. R. Wood and Son, Grady, Ark., $26,199; N. H. May and Sons, Humnoke, Ark., $26,008; Charles R. Bartels, J. H. and J. W. Pruitt, Lyon, $25,844; W. T. Gerrard, Marianna, $25,805; Hester B. Robinson, De Valls Bluff, $25,723; Harrison Evans, Shuqualak, Miss., $25,678; Tschudy Lumber Co., Weona, Ark., $25,098.

'Book Burning' Is Laid To Benson by Democrats

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Benson was accused of "book burning" Friday by some members of Congress.

Benson's department was depicted as having ordered the destruction of 2,500 copies of a recent farm census report because, in the words of Sen. Humphrey (D-Minn), it showed "the way "this administration's policies have ruined the farmer."

Humphrey, as do some other Congress members, said the suppressed edition was burned, but whether this was the actual method of destruction could not be learned.

REPORT SUBSTITUTED

"I do not know how they were destroyed," said Asst. Secretary Don Paarlberg, who is in charge of farm population publications.

Paarlberg told reporters he ordered the booklets destroyed because they were "deemed to be statistically not representative in certain respects."

"They were destroyed and a new report which was completely in line with previous reports in earlier years was issued," Paarlberg said.

"In the report issued there were no statistical changes from the earlier report," he added.

Paarlberg said it cost the government about $50 to destroy the booklets and print a revised edition.

The Benson aide declined to specify in what way the publication was revised other than to describe deleted material as preliminary data based on "a subsample we did not think adequate."

SOMETHING TO HIDE

Rep. Fountain (D-N.C.), chairman of a Government Operations subcommittee who tried vainly to get a copy of the suppressed version, told the department in a letter:

"When documents are withheld and officials are forbidden to talk, an inference is inevitably created that the department has something to hide."

Sen. Proxmire (D-Wis) cited what he called "startling contradictions and discrepancies" in the figures on which he said Benson has claimed an increase in the per person income of farmers "while other official figures on farm income have gone down."

Under the caption "Book Burning at the Department of Agriculture," Proxmire inserted a statement in Thursday's Congressional Record saying:

"It appears that the civil service economists at the department issued a report on the farm population situation which Mr. Benson does not want to permit the public to see.

"After the report was published, it was ordered to be burned, and a new version satisfactory to Mr. Benson's office was printed in its place."

Farm Jobs Down 172,000 In South; Hit By Weather

Farm employment in the South where colored workers make up a sizeable proportion of the agricultural labor force, was down 172,000 during the survey week of February 16-22, compared with a year ago, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reports.

Extremely cold weather and the general downflow trend in farm employment are said to have accounted for the decline.

Total farm employment in the United States during February stood at 5,439,000, compared with 5,633,000 a year ago. The South accounted for all except 22,000 of the drop.

The February employment figures are the lowest on record for that month. There were 1 percent fewer persons at work than in 1955, and nearly 30 percent fewer than during February 1948.

Family workers made up most of the decline. Of the 194,000 drop they numbered 170,000.

EMPLOYMENT DOWN STEADILY

The Department points out that farm employment has been going downward steadily since 1935. Since that date, the number of persons employed on farms has decreased by 40 percent, while the farm population has dropped 37 percent.

As farms have become more mechanized and farming technology has developed, the average productivity of the U. S. farm worker has increased. And farming units have become larger and fewer as operators have tried to keep their machinery busy. The number of farms is now 29 percent fewer than in 1935.

With these changes have come a decline in the need for farm workers, and a rise in migration to industrial jobs. Since 1935, the numbers of non-white farm operators in the South has dropped from 815,747 to 467,770, or by more than 43 percent, while the number of white farmers in the South has declined from 2,606,176 to 1,848,837 or by 29 percent.

Macon County 4-H Club Reorganizes Council

By FAYE BEASLEY
And HENRY HOOTEN, Jr.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE — The Macon County 4-H Council met recently at the extension building. The purpose of the meeting was to reorganize the council and plan the year's activities.

The devotional period consisted of a song, "My Country 'Tis Of Thee," led by Miss Barbara Mahone and the Lord's Prayer repeated in concert. The pledge to the American Plan and the 4-H Pledge was recited by the members and leaders of the 4-H Council. Miss L. V. Battle led in singing, "This Little 4-H Light O Mine," which completed the devotion period.

Jerry Green, assistant Negro county agent served as chairman. The following persons were elected: Vicke Beasley, president; Everett Gunn, vice president; Fay Beasley, secretary; Nancy Hooten, assistance secretary; Geneva Bailey, treasurer; Henry Hooten, reporter; Elizabeth Martin, song leader; Connie Beasley, girls' cheer leader, Howard Henderson, boys' cheer leader and Fannie Harrison, sergeant-at-arms.

The members of the 4-H Council were divided into three committees: activity, project and recreation. After a brief meeting each committee made reports as follows: The activity committee suggested that the council members assist agents and leaders in the observance of 4-H Sunday, 4-H Achievement Day and any outstanding events that are of interest to 4-H'ers. Everett Gunn, chairman, Nancy Hooten, secretary.

The project committee plans to help sell more 4-H calendars, assist with the Poultry Show and District Dairy Show. Fannie Harrison, chairman, Doris Manley, secretary.

The recreation committee recommended that the 4-H Council help sponsor a county-wide picnic possibly in mid-summer and a county-wide 4-H birthday party. Mozelle McKinney, chairman, Adrienne Moore, secretary.

The reports of the committees were accepted. Then Miss B. M. Jones, state 4-H leader for Negro girls, was presented to the council. Miss Jones talked to the group about "You and Your 4-H Club." She explained what each "H" stood for in our 4-H Pledge. Miss Jones also showed slides showing different activities and places of interest of 4-H members while attending the 4-H camp in Washington, D. C. last August.

Interesting remarks were made by several leaders and parents.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon, to be resumed the first Saturday in June.

1b 1958 GENERAL

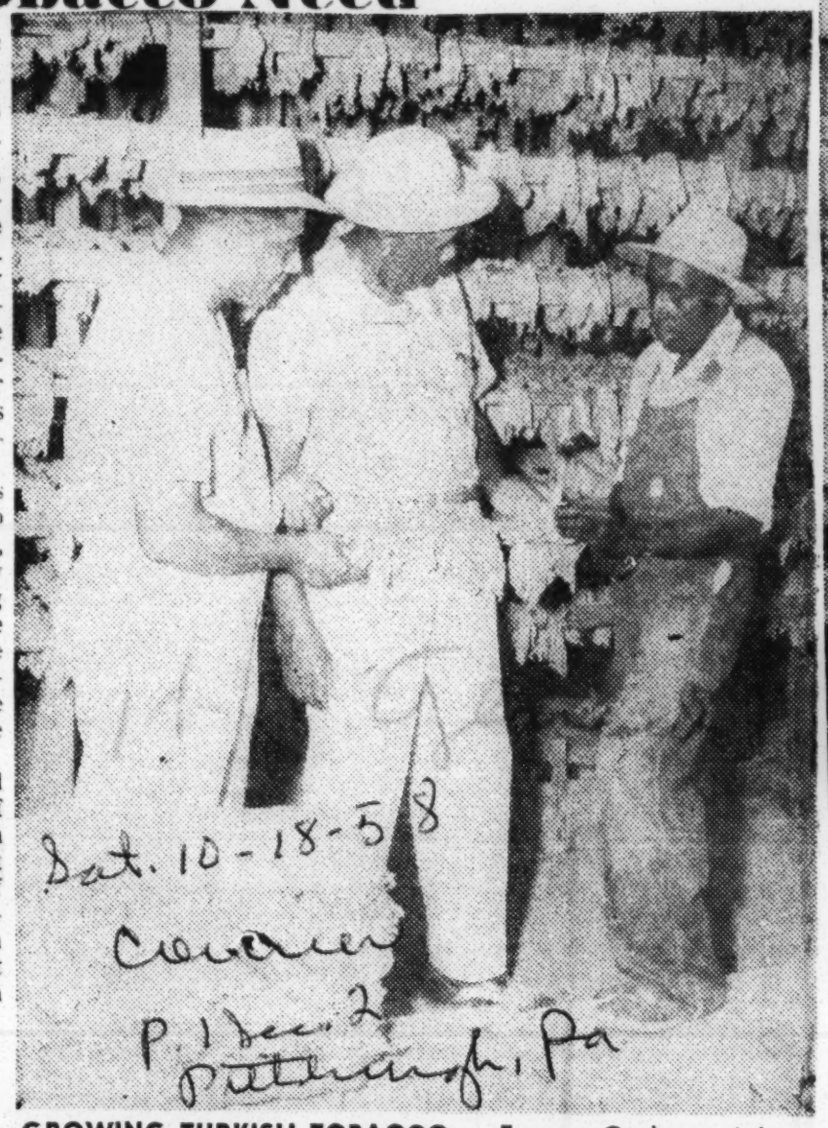
Cotton Farmers Filling Turkish Tobacco Need

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Some cotton farmers in the Southwest are trying a few acres of Turkish tobacco as a sideline source of income, reports E. N. Williams, state supervisor of Negro extension work in S. Carolina, where part of the small crop is grown.

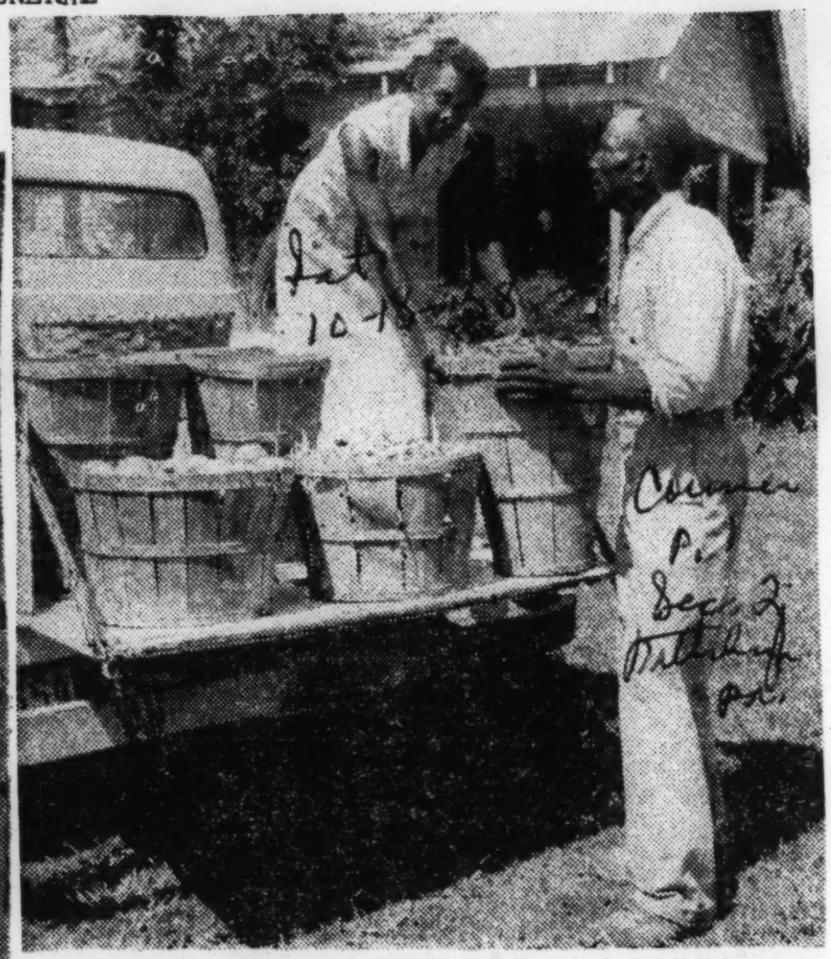
Turkish tobacco, used mainly for blending with regular domestic types in the manufacture of cigarettes, is in increased demand as a result of the higher cigarette consumption which is partly accounted for by the population rise.

One of the first colored farmers to begin growing Turkish tobacco in S. Carolina, says Mr. Williams, is Eugene Graham of Newberry County. He has been growing one to two acres of the crop since 1951 to supplement his income from cotton and milk. Thirty-eight other colored farmers in the county also are growing the Turkish variety.

Last year Mr. Graham grossed $712 off an acre and a fourth of the crop. His yield was down somewhat from 1955, his best year, when he grossed $1,137 off an acre and a half. He has received from 82 to 99 cents a pound for the tobacco — almost twice the average returns from regular flue-cured varieties.



GROWING TURKISH TOBACCO — Eugene Graham, right, first colored farmer of Newberry County, S. C., to grow Turkish tobacco, discusses the quality of his leaf with County Agent B. J. Gill, left, and State Extension Supervisor E. N. Williams. At lower left is a bale of the tobacco ready for shipment to market.—USDA Photo.



VEGETABLES FOR CUSTOMERS — Mr. and Mrs. George Spratt of Crossett, Ark., are loading their half-ton truck with vegetables for customers in town. "This truck never goes to town empty," says Mrs. Spratt, who peddles the vegetables. "I always take something to sell."—USDA Photo.

MORE SMALL FARMERS SOUNDLY ESTABLISHED

By SHERMAN BRISCOE
PSDA Information Specialist

WASHINGTON. — While most colored farmers still live in rundown housing on farms too small or unproductive to provide them with full employment and an acceptable standard of living, increasing numbers of these disadvantaged producers have built modern homes and are becoming soundly established in agriculture.

Many of these have been aided by credit and counsel from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

This is the impression I got during a recent tour of farming communities in New Jersey, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

26 FAMILIES VISITED

Altogether, I visited 25 Negro farm families who have been assisted by Farmers Home. Unable to get adequate credit aid elsewhere, they turned to this Government agency for loans. The agency was established more than 20 years ago to help meet the credit needs of such disadvantaged farmers.

Some of the families visited had obtained loans to buy farms of their own, others to expand and develop their farms into economic-sized family units. Most had borrowed funds to buy farm equipment, livestock, fertilizer, and insecticides, or to take care of other operating expenses. And 11 of the 26 families had obtained loans to build new homes or modernize their old ones.

Farmers Home recently lowered its eligibility requirements for housing loans as an anti-recession move. Now any farmer who owns a farm which produces as much as $400 worth of products for sale or home use may be eligible for a housing loan, provided he has sufficient farm and other income to meet the payments which may be spread over a period up to 33 years.

Many Farmers Lose Security Benefits For Selves, Kin

Many farmers are losing their rights to future Social Security benefits for themselves and their families. This fact was pointed out by Joseph R. Murphy, manager of the Atlanta Social Security Office.

Every farmer probably knows by now that he came under Social Security Coverage in 1955. Most of them also know that they must file an Income Tax Return with Internal Revenue Service and pay Social Security tax in order to receive credits under Social Security. This return is necessary, even though no income tax is due in many cases, only Social Security tax. This tax was 3 per cent net income for 955 and 1956, and 3 3-8 per cent for 1959.

Most of those farmers who have overlooked filing returns are those who are likely to benefit most from Social Security protection. These are the younger farmers who have families which may be left without any source of income in case of the farmer's death. By failing to file his tax returns the young farmer is also losing valuable protection for benefits at age 65 or before that age in case of his becoming disabled

Corn Control Issue Goes To Farmers

WASHINGTON (AP)—A farmer referendum Tuesday will determine whether corn—the nation's biggest agricultural crop—will be freed of production controls.

Eligible to vote will be three million growers in a designated commercial area comprising 932 major corn producing counties in 26 midwestern, eastern and southeastern states.

The outcome may offer some indication how growers feel toward withdrawal of government from controls and price-fixing in agriculture. Too, the result could influence future corn legislation.

TWO CHOICES

Farmers will have two choices and the one receiving a simple majority will win.

One choice is a continuation of the present program, enacted in 1938, providing planting allotments for farms in a designated commercial area. Only those farmers who comply are eligible for full price supports.

The other choice is a plan, backed by Benson, under which allotments would be eliminated and all corn would be eligible for price support at the same level.

POSSIBLE LIGHT VOTE

Reports from some producing areas indicate that interest in the referendum is not as great as Agriculture Department officials would desire. Some figured that a very light vote would work in favor of the old program.

Under the new plan, corn would be supported at 90 per cent of the average corn price during the three preceding years, but not less than 65 per cent of parity. Officials estimate that the support would be between $1.12 and $1.15 a bushel under this plan.

Parity is a standard for measuring farm prices declared by law to be fair to farmers in relation to prices charged them.

Farmers Earned Less In 1957 Report Reveals

WASHINGTON, (INS)—Agriculture Economists Thursday took another look at 1957 farm income and reported that farmers earned less money tha a year earlier.

The finding reversed all predictions of net farm income made last year. Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson reported to Congress late as last Friday that farmers' "keep-home" pay was rising for the second year in a row.

Rain in the cotton belt was the principal reason given for the income drop. Much of the cotton harvest was delayed by autumn storms and the cotton that was finally delivered to the gins was often of poor quality.

The outlook now is that farmers will close their books on 1957 with a realized net income of 11 billion, 900 million dollars. The 1956 net was 12 billion, 100 million.

This is the actual difference between gross income from sales of farm products and operating expenses. It does not include changes in a farmer's inventory of livestock and stored crops.

Actual cash receipts from cotton in the last half of 1957, according to the "demand and price" situation, were one-fourth lower than a year earlier.

Dropping feed grain prices also cut into income as feed prices hit the lowest level since world war II.

Prices of all crops were down two per cent from 1956. Farmers received eight per cent more livestock products, but this increase was not enough to add to the total income because volume of marketing was generally down.

The department reported that price declines are probable for hogs and milk in the next few months. Hog marketings are on the rise and prices will likely go down until the seasonal increase in midspring.

Best estimates now are that milk will be selling for an average $4.00 a hundredweight after april 1, when support rates are cut from 83 to 75 per cent of parity. The 1957 average was $4.20.

Cattle prices, however, will be as high or higher than a year ago. egg production appears likely to hold below a year earlier and keep prices level.

Prompt Action For Cotton Farmers Urged

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (AP)—Sen. Stennis (D-Miss) demanded in the Senate today that the Department of Agriculture take prompt action to unravel the tangle which has resulted in the signup of cotton farmers in the 1958 Soil Bank program.

It is the department's duty, he said, "to formulate a sound, fair plan if legislation is necessary to carry out such a plan it should call on the Congress for such legislation."

Stennis recalled to the Senate that the Department originally announced that funds would be adequate to cover all acreage which cotton farmers were expected to put in the Soil Bank and that a county's signup would become the cotton allotment. It also said there would be several weeks allowed for the signup.

'ABRUPT NOTICE'

However, on Jan. 16, after four days of signups, Stennis said, "abrupt notice was given" by the Department to discontinue accepting applications.

"This came as a shocking surprise to farmers who wanted to sign up for the program and had been assured that the program would be open until March 7," Stennis told the Senate. "This drastic action is directly contrary to prior assurances they had received."

COMPLICATING SITUATION

Complicating the situation further, he said, were the Department's instructions that county funds be allocated to farmers on a first-come-first-served basis.

"Under this procedure, farmers filing applications after their county quota has been reached cannot participate in the program unless unused funds from other states or counties are made available at a later date," Stennis said.

Benson Is Told To Quit

GOP Foes Label Props Stand Detrimental to Party

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AP)—A bloc of House Republicans, rebuffed by Secretary of Agriculture Benson in their demands for a new farm policy, threatened today to plow him under.

"Benson should resign," Rep. Jensen (R-Iowa) declared a few minutes after Benson announced he had no intention of abandoning his program of lower price supports.

Immediate arrangements were made to go over Benson's head to President Eisenhower. The bloc contends the administration's farm policy must be changed if Republicans are to win the November elections.

Rep. Miller (R-Neb) announced he will seek an appointment with the President as soon as possible for five or six GOP House members.

If Benson remains in office, Miller asserted, it will mean the loss of 20 to 25 Republican House seats in the Midwest. "He's the best weapon the Democrats have," Miller said.

Miller and Rep. Judd (R-Minn) laid it on the line at a conference in Benson's office. Miller said they didn't ask for the secretary's resignation.

Up to Benson

"We left it up to him after weighing all the pros and cons," Miller said.

While Judd acted as one of the emissaries, he said that personally he felt Benson has been "right in his policy."

"We reported as instructed on the agricultural and political situation in the Midwestern corn belt as these congressmen see it," Judd told newsmen.

"They are profoundly disturbed . . . A lot of them felt he ought to resign . . . There's been a sag in Republican support in the Midwest — There's no question about it."

Benson, who has received stonewall support from Eisenhower in his previous fights with Congress, promptly issued a statement saying he was convinced the American people want programs based on sound principles in agriculture.

To Keep Fighting

"And for that reason I shall continue to fight for what I feel to be right," he declared.

As a Republican and a Cabinet member, Benson added, he is naturally interested and concerned in attempting to give the American people the best government possible.

"But concern for political fortunes of individuals cannot transcend the very function of government, which is to protect and to help its citizens," he added.

Meanwhile, Benson announced new support rates for nine lesser firm commodities that pretty well held to last year's levels. In the case of four livestock feed grains —oats, rye, barley and sorghum grains— this was a surprise.

In view of the fact that feed supplies have climbed to record levels, some farm leaders had expected a reduction in supports of these grains in line with the administration's flexible support policy. Under this policy supports are reduced as supplies increase.

Benson may have been influenced by the possibility that lower feed prices might encourage an overexpansion in livestock products, perhaps driving their prices down.

Infuriates Solons

Benson's statement that he will stick to his farm ideas infuriated some of the farm belt congressmen.

Rep. O'Konski (R-Wis) told a reporter there is "no question about it," that the group will go over Benson's head to the President.

Miller, chairman of the protesting bloc, agreed that will be "the logical next step."

The new revolt against the administration's farm policies broke out Thursday at a closed meeting of more than 30 GOP House members from Midwest districts.

Dissatisfaction is centered on the administration's drive for authority to set lower price supports for major crops. Under the heaviest attack lately has been Benson's order to reduce price supports for dairy products to 75 per cent of parity—the lowest legal minimum—on April 1.

Unless Congress blocks this plan, Rep. Johnson (D-Wis) said recently, dairy farmers face a loss of up to 250 million dollars a year.

Benson argues the cuts will be in the best interest of the dairy industry in the long run. He said they should bring a reduction of about 2½ cents a pound in the retail prices of butter and cheese and ½ cent a quart for fluid milk.

Farm jobs at seasonal low

Farm employment dropped to a seasonal low of 5,289,000 in January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced this week.

During the survey week of January 19-25, 482,000 fewer persons were at work than in December, and 114,000 less than were employed on farms a year ago.

Family workers made up 4,391,000 of the labor force; hired workers accounted for the remaining 898,000. This is the first time on record since 1925 that the number of hired workers has fallen below 900,000.

Farm Jobs At Seasonal Low

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cember, and 114,000 less were employed on farms a year ago.

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In the South where Negro employees make up a sizable part of the farm labor force, there were 303,000 fewer prsons at work than in December, and 88,000 less than a year ago. Unfavorable weather is reported to be the main cause of the sharp drop, which took place principally among family workers who accounted for all except 2,000 of the 88,000 decline.

Talmadge Introduces Bill To Block Cotton-Acre Cuts

Constitution Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 6—A bill to prevent the reduction of cotton acreage allotments below 1956 levels was introduced in Congress today by Sen. Talmadge.

The bill also would prohibit further transfer of cotton acreage allotments from Southern states to other cotton-producing areas.

It would accomplish this by banning the transfer of any relinquished cotton acreage allotments from any county so long as there is a cotton farmer in that county desiring additional acreage.

Talmadge's bill was referred to the Senate Agriculture Committee, which today approved two similar resolutions to keep Secretary of Agriculture Benson from further slashing crop price supports and acreage allotments.

The Georgia senator's bill is believed to have a good chance either of passage on its own or of being incorporated in one of the committee-approved measures.

Talmadge told the Senate the bill has been requested by the Georgia Legislature and is aimed at stopping Department of Agriculture practices he charged are destroying the cotton economy of Georgia and other Southern states.

Talmadge stressed that Georgia cotton farmers are "in the most dire financial straits of any time since the depression of the 30's."

Caught in a squeeze between constricting acreage allotments and ever-increasing costs of production, many are being forced out of business altogether, he said.

The transfer of cotton acreage allotments from Georgia to other states, if allowed to continue, would result in "the drying up of the rural areas of my state," he declared.

FARM INCOME FALLS IN SOUTHERN STATES

Average And Total Receipts Both Decline

FIGURES ARE RELEASED

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, March 7. — Southern farmers found dollars harder to earn last year.

Realized net income, as well as cash receipts, were lower in all Southern states than in 1956, Agriculture Department figures show.

Increase Offset

Average realized net income per farm in Alabama was $1,157, down 16 per cent.

Increases in cash receipts from broilers, cattle and hogs were more than offset by a large decrease in cash receipts from cotton and smaller decreases in receipts from peanuts, sweet potatoes and pecans. Production expenses were up a little.

Other Southern states showed these average realized net income figures: Arkansas $1,562, down 27 per cent; Louisiana $1,311, down 19 per cent; Mississippi $948, down 36 per cent, and Tennessee $1,208, down 11 per cent.

Totals Are Given

Here are the cash receipt totals for 1956 and 1957, with last year's listed first: Tennessee, $460,046,000 and $491,571,000; Mississippi, $476,551,000 and $600,150,000; Arkansas, $560,414,000 and $652,020,000, and Louisiana, $348,902,000 and $383,270,000.

In addition to cash receipts from farm products, farmers received government payments increasing their total income.

Alabama farmers received $3,391,000, including $1,587,000 for soil bank participation and $5,734,000 for conservation practices.

Tennessee $15,690,000; Mississippi $25,801,000; Arkansas $20,330,000, and Louisiana $21,552,000

Farmers Better Off Now Than City Cousins

Fourth of 10 articles by the touring pulse-taker, Samuel Lubell. He has been asking persons in all walks of life what effect the recession has had on them and what they feel should be done about it.

By SAMUEL LUBELL

A swing through the farm belt these days is a tour of a land of paradoxes.

While the rest of the economy has been slipping, farmers generally are better off than a year ago and are spending more on farm machinery. Almost to a man they oppose cutting taxes to ease a recession and even frown on public works projects, which are supported by most city dwellers.

LUBELL

This economic upturn and the feeling that no urgent government action is needed to combat the recession, have been accompanied, however, by an increase in the Democratic rather than Republican strength.

A third paradox is that even while they mutter angrily over the administration's decision to lower farm price supports, farmers are talking among themselves of the need for stiffer controls on production than Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson has dared suggest.

To begin with the first of these paradoxes — thus far the recession has not had any ill effects on the farmer. Out of nearly 50 farmers interviewed in six typical Iowa and Minnesota counties only two could report any way in which the recession had affected them and both felt they "had been helped a little."

"It was easier this winter to get a man to come out from the city to help for a day with a load of fertilizer," they explained.

The People Speak...

A note of suppressed satisfaction runs through the oft-repeated remark: "The rest of the country is only beginning to feel what we've gone through for years." One Iowa farmer remembered visiting Chicago last year and telling a woman there how tough farming was. He recalls, "She said, 'If you don't like it, why don't you quit?' That shut me up. I wonder now whether she likes this unemployment."

In both Iowa and Minnesota some farmers said, "Last year was the best I ever had." Even the farmers who complained that "things are rough" still admitted they were not losing money. The trouble, as they see it, is "we hardly get any return for our labor and you've got to work harder and harder to make a small farm pay."

What seems to have impressed farmers most about the whole recession is the failure of prices to come down. This has awakened many of them to thoughtful envy.

"With five million unemployed you would think prices would be coming down," argued one young farmer in Dodge County, Minnesota. "But if a manufacturer gets overstocked he just lays off men and stops production until he's caught up with the market.

"But look at us. Corn is cheap today and farmers are building up their herds of cattle and hogs. We know this is going to glut the market a year or so from now and livestock prices will collapse. But we can't do anything about it. We just have to produce all we can."

Another farmer glumly remarked, "Cheap corn always means cheap hogs." Then he went on, "Maybe we've been arguing too much about support prices. What we ought to have is real production controls, with cross-compliance so a fellow doesn't take his land out of one crop and create a surplus in another."

One of his neighbors complained, "The way this soil bank has been operating it's a joke. Everyone knows how to get around it. We ought to put some teeth into the program and get production down."

Secretary Benson's decision to drop support prices has rocked even stalwart Republicans. "I've never voted Democratic before," said one Dodge County farmer, "but this is the limit. Maybe Benson's right in his philosophy. But why must it be applied only to the farmer and not the whole economy? Why not bring down other prices, not just farm prices?"

This desire to see some "leveling off" of the economy explains why most farmers feel we should "let things ride out for a while" when asked what the government should do about the recession.

However, the belief that "prices and wages ought to come down" seems more hope than expectation. I asked each farmer interviewed, "do you expect farm machinery prices to come down, go up or stay where they are?" Just under a third felt prices would come down, but two out of three farmers asked, "How can machinery prices come down if wages keep going up?"

NEXT: Can we have a normal economy?

DR. C. L. ELLISON LULA MILLER

Girl Takes Ag. To Save Family Farm

FORT VALLEY, Ga. — Lula Louise Miller who entered as a freshman in 1957, is the first female student to enroll in the division of agriculture at Fort Valley State College.

Miss Miller, a native of Marshallville, Ga., is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harris Miller. She has three brothers and two sisters.

She explained that there are 500 acres of land in the family farm and that none of the other brothers or sisters is interested in farming.

For two years Miss Miller has helped her father in managing and operating the farm. This experience, in addition to her general farm background, motivated her to seek training and a career in agriculture, she said.

Miss Miller states that her father is cultivating approximately 400 acres and produces small grain, cotton, peanuts, okra, and cattle. Her present plans are to apply the knowledge obtained from her studies to modernize the home, farm and to make a career in farming.

Dr. C. L. Ellison, chairman of the division of agriculture, pointed out that many career opportunities are open to women in the field of agriculture and that in many areas women are preferred to men.

Some of the opportunities related by Dr. Ellison are: veterinary science, agricultural economics, agricultural chemistry, botany, floriculture, food inspection, dairy manufacturing, landscape architecture, agricultural communication. Whereas these are some of the opportunities for women, Dr. Ellison states that really no branch of agriculture is closed to them.

State Farmers To Spend $750,000 To Increase the Sale of Peanut Products

BLAKELY, Ga. (AP) — Georgia peanut growers are raising a $750,000 kitty to get you to eat more peanut products and put more dollars in their pockets.

The growers recently voted overwhelmingly to assess themselves $1 per ton of peanuts produced during the next three years to finance a research and promotion program. Alabama has just launched a similar plan.

Stocks of edible peanuts, particularly in Georgia and the Southeast, have accumulated faster than they have been consumed since World War II. Much of this is due to competition from substitute products and rapid increases in yields per acre.

Although known as the Peach State, Georgia produces 50 per cent of America's peanuts. Lately the state has piled up 65 per cent of the peanut surplus.

The chairman of the Georgia Agricultural Commodity Authority, A. J. Singletary, thinks the quickest way to solve this problem is to get more people to eat more peanut products.

Singletary, a peanut grower himself, claims the school-lunch program "doesn't scratch the surface on what could be used if each American child got half the peanut butter the youngsters would like to have."

He says the school lunch program, which now uses five to six million pounds per year, should use a lot more peanut butter . . . and this alone could end the surplus problem.

The $1 per ton assessment is expected to raise $250,000-$260,000 per year starting with this harvest season, which begins in August.

The money will be collected by federal-state inspecting service agents or by buyers, who will turn it over to the Agricultural Commodity Authority. The body will name five peanut growers to recommend to the authority how the money should be spent.

Singletary thinks the most urgent need now is for marketing studies and promotion, and some 75-80 per cent of the money should go for that. Who will make the studies and handle the promotion is yet to be determined, but he noted that Alabama hired a New York public relations firm to make a marketing study on peanut problems.

The authority chairman feels the other 20-25 per cent at the onset should go for research on how to produce more and better peanuts. He says the extension experiment stations probably would be in charge of most research on production.

However, Singletary expects a farmer to file a test case to clear up a constitutional question about the legislative act approving the peanut program. Until this is settled the money will be held intact, he says, but preliminary planning will go on in the meantime.

As with most peanuts, the largest part of the Georgia crop goes into peanut butter. About 60 per cent of the state's peanuts are runners, 35 per cent are Spanish type and the other 5 per cent are Virginia type—the large kind you eat at the ball park or the circus. But most of the Virginia type, rather than being roasted in the shell, wind up in cans and bags of salted peanuts.

Peanut butter is the end product of 88 per cent of the runners used, which generally are a little smaller than the Virginia type.

The Spanish peanuts are the smallest. Some 50 per cent of them go into peanut butter, with about 30 per cent used for candy and 20 per cent salted.

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Farm Home—Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Cooney of Boston, Ga., are checking for insects and plant diseases among the shrubs and flowers in their beautifully landscaped yard. Their home agent, Mrs. Lillian B. Valentine, is helping them check. Note the attractive home in background. The Cooneys own a 306-acre farm.—USDA Photo.

PRIZE HAM of the 43rd annual Ham and Egg show at Fort Valley State college, Fort Valley, Ga., was sold for 57 per pound and was brought by P. T. Hays, Jr., of Bamberg, S. C. Health & Life Insurance Co. for shown at left, Cornelius Horton, Jr., won first place with the 4-H club ham which sold for 57 per pound. The Hay family was one of the original supporters of the Ham and Egg Show.

Father, Son Win Ham, Egg Awards

FORT VALLEY, Ga. — The 43rd Annual Ham and Egg Show open ed at The Fort Valley State college with many exhibits in the College Auditorium. The judges were W. J. Hays, Extension Swine Specialist; M. Y. Dendy, Extension Poultryman, and K. C. Childers, Special Negro County Agent.

A sizable aggregation of farmers attended the affair. It was emphasized that noticeable progress has been made in the areas of meat curing and poultry farming since the initial Ham and Egg Show was held in 1916. This Show was sponsored by the farmers of Peach and Macon Counties under the supervision of County Agent H. L. Smith in cooperation with The Fort Valley State College and the [illegible]

When the judging was over, a father-son combination had captured top honors in the adult and 4-H Club divisions for ham curing; while Mrs. Fannie Flowers and James Latimore grabbed the laurels for eggs.

The father and son duo is Cornelius Horton, Sr. and Jr. The senior counterpart of the winning combination displayed a beautiful 18 pound masterpiece of ham curing shortly after the judges' decision was made.

The complete decisions were as follows: (Admit Hams) 1. Cornelius Horton, Sr. 2. Cornelius Horton, Jr., 3. Leroy Mathis. (4-H Club Hams) 1. Cornlius Horton, Jr.; 2. Augustus Sanders, 3. Cornelius Horton, Jr.

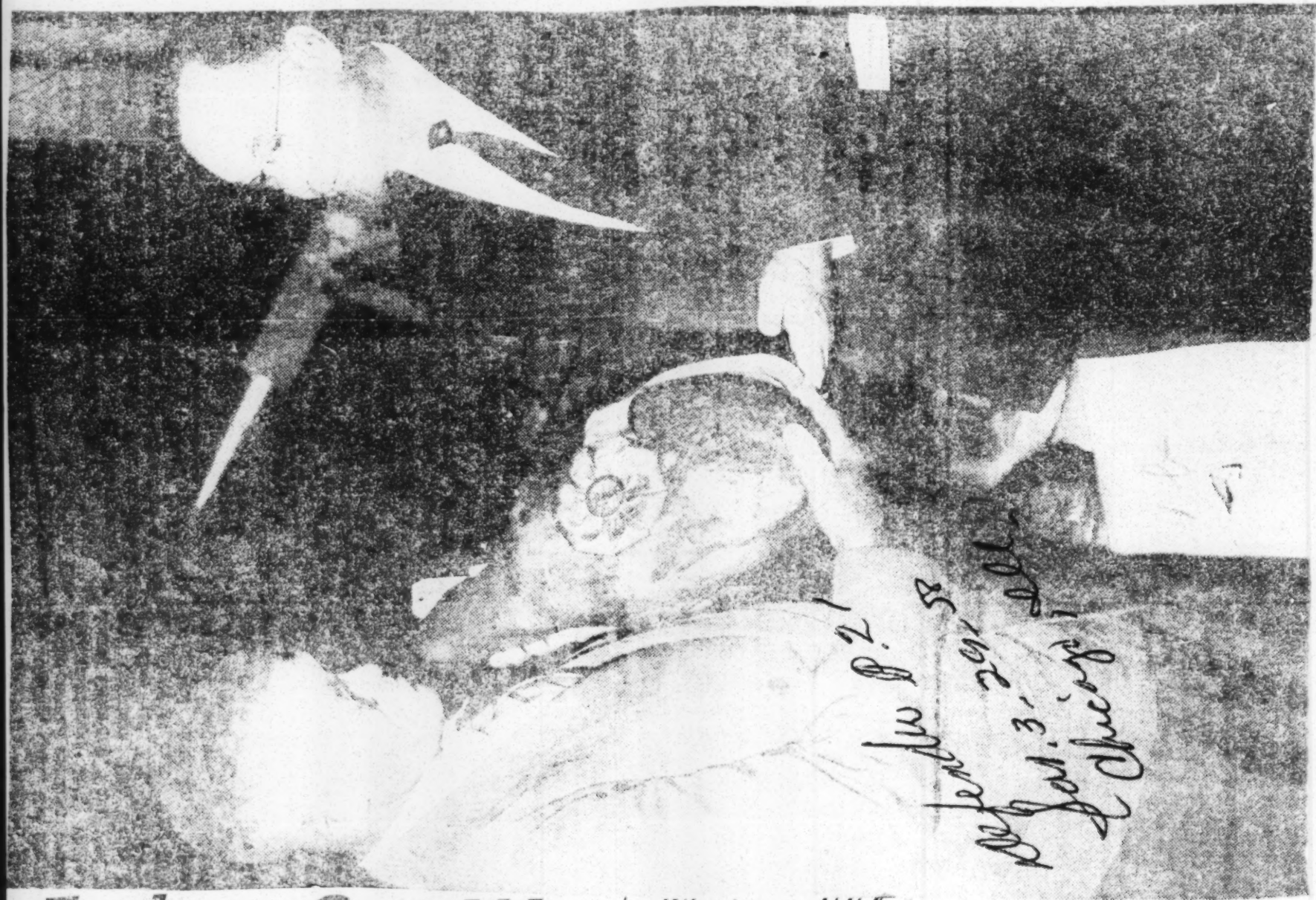
(Adult Eggs) 1. Mrs. Fannie Horton. 2. Mrs. Hannah Johnson, 3. Mrs Iola W. James. (4-H Eggs) 1. James Latimore. 2. Robert Brown, 3. James Latimore.

(Shoulders) 1. Clifford Sanders, 2. Buddy Johnson, 3. Buddy Johnson. (Bacon) 1. Buddy Johnson, 2. Buddy Johnson.

The afternoon session included an information meeting and arranging exhibits. The theme of the event was "Making Farm Adjustments in An Exploring Scientific World." The two discussion leaders were W. J. Hays and Y. Dendy.

Hays' discussion advised thrift in raising of swine and he put particular emphasis on the feeding of swine. "The farmer's problems" he said "are the world's problems." He expressed deep concern in the care of hogs and forbade the butchering of young swine. Mr. Hays concluded with a challenge to the farmers to "sell more market hogs."

Dendy confirmed the fact that Georgia is the number one poultry producing state in the country but still has to import eggs from other states for consumption. "We," he explained, "must presently produce more than we consume and eventually have surplus for exporting."



PRIZE HAM of the 43rd annual Ham and Egg show at Fort Valley State college, Fort Valley, Ga., was sold for 5 per pound and was bought by P. J. Hay, Jr., of Bankers Health & Life Insurance Co. for $270. The ham weighed 18 pounds and was grown and exhibited by Cornelius Horton, Sr., of Peach County, who is shown at left. Cornelius Horton, Jr., won first place with the 4-H club ham which sold for $7 per pound. The Hay family was one of the original supporters of the Ham and Egg Show.

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PRIZE EGGS were the subject of this photo taken at the 43rd annual Ham and Egg show at Fort Valley State college, at Fort Valley, Ga. The eggs above were first prize winners and are being given to a Mr. Flemming who paid $15. They are held by R. L. Church, county agent. The eggs were the entry of Mrs. Fannie Horton whose husband and son were first place winners in the ham division.

Ham and egg show held at Fort Valley College

FORT VALLEY, Ga. — The 43rd annual Ham and Egg Show opened at Fort Valley State College on March 6 with judging exhibits in the college auditorium. The judges were W. J. Hays, extension swine specialist; M. Y. Dendy, extension poultryman and K. C. Childers, special county agent.

This show was sponsored by the farmers of Peach and Macon Counties, under the supervision of County Agent R. L. Church in cooperation with Fort Valley State College and Hunt High School.

WHEN THE judging was done, a father - son combination had captured top honors in the adult and 4-H Club divisions for ham curing, while Mrs. Fannie Flowers and James Latimore grabbed the laurels for eggs.

The father and son duo is Cornelius Horton Sr. and Jr The Elder Mr. Horton displayed an 18 pound ham shortly after the judges' decision was made.

The Hortons, Leroy Mathis, Augustus Sanders, Mrs. Fannie Horton, Mrs. Hannah Johnson, Mrs. Iola W. James, James Latimore, Robert Brown, Clifford Sanders and Buddy Johnson were winners in the show.

Negro FB Meet Set at Ft. Valley

Constitution State News Service

MACON, Jan. 15—The second annual Georgia Farm Bureau leadership training school for Negro officers will be held on the campus of Fort Valley State College at Fort Valley Jan. 28-30.

Negro Farm Bureau chapter officers from throughout the state are expected to attend the three-day conference.

The Farm Bureau officers will study means of strengthening Negro Farm Bureau chapters, improving health and medical care of chapter families, review Farm Home administration activities as related to Negro farm operations. The group also will tour the Fort Valley Agriculture College, a local flour mill, and the Blue Bird Body Plant.

Registration will begin at 10 a.m. Jan. 28 in the College Agricultural Building with the first general assembly scheduled for 1 p.m. The program will end noon Wednesday, Jan. 30.

John P. Duncan Jr., Georgia Farm Bureau Federation president, will address Training School delegates on the Wednesday morning assembly program.

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GEORGIA

Farm Council Takes Look At '58 Agriculture

The Farm Advisory Council of the Employment Security Agency, Georgia Department of Labor, in meeting here this week heard reports that the Georgia 1958 crop outlook is essentially the same as it was in 1957, with present trends showing somewhat. Cotton acreage allotment is up 578 acres. Tobacco and peanut acreage remains the same as last year.

Commissioner of Labor Ben T. Huiet reported to the council that seasonal farm labor would likely be adequate in 1958.

"In 1945 the average Georgia farm was 105 acres; five years later, 130 acres, and by 1955 the average Georgia farm had increased to 155 acres. This trend continues. Georgia has fewer but larger farms. Increased mechanization makes farming in Georgia almost an industrial operation. As a result more and more farm people are entering the industrial labor scene. This places a two-fold problem on the State: jobs for the displaced farmin workers and seasonal workers for peak farm loads," the Commissioner asserted.

"Last year the thirty-four Employment Service offices of the Department filled 129,270 farm jobs At the same time these offices filled over 106,000 non-farm jobs, many of these farm workers entering the industrial labor market," Huiet told the council.

Those attending the council meeting today are: R. L. P. Carter, Commerce; Harley Langdale, Valdosta W. J. McKemie, Jr., Coleman; Richard E. Smith, Athens; Mell J. Turner, Sandersville; and H. G. Willey Cobb. Other members of the council are: Wm. H. Booth, Commerce J. J. Brown, Manchester; Carr I Cheney, Reidsville; Sidney L. Lowrey Armuchee; and W. H. Smi Jr., Statesboro.

Georgia Farmer Joins Soil Bank To Reduce Surpluses

SEE PICTURES Page 21

Nearly 300,000 white and colored cotton and tobacco farmers have offered to put 3,188,145 "allotment" acres into the Acreage Reserve of the Soil Bank this year to help reduce price-depressing farm surpluses, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Among these farmers is Benjamin Cooney of Boston, Ga., who for the second time has put all his "allotment" cotton and tobacco acres into the Soil Bank, and is now concentrating on livestock.

Altogether, 661,519 farmers have offered 12,234,000 acres for the1958 Acreage Reserve program; and 42,000 have signed up to put 2,715,000 acres into the Conservation Reserve. This is in addition to the 6,500,000 acres "banked" under the Conservation Reserve program in 1956 and '57.

A. S. Bacon, Georgia supervisor of Negro extension work, says Mr and Mrs. Cooney first put land in the Soil Bank last year, when they "banked" four acres of cotton land and two acres of tobacco land — all of their allotment of these crops

RECEIVED PAYMENTS

They received rental payments to help them maintain their income while resting the land from surplus production and letting it be restored for use when needed.

But they didn't rely on Soil Bank payments alone. They raised and sold 80 hogs, a half dozen calves, 3,000 watermelons, and seven tons of peanuts.

County Agent C. W. McIver says the Cooneys believe in the Soil Bank Program, as well as other improved practices. They were the first in their county to establish pastures of Coastal Bermuda as improved grazing; among the first to provide W-type drainage waterways; and were leaders in the Soil Bank signup.

"We decided 20 years ago that we were going to make a success of farming, but our outlook then didn't look good," says Cooney. At the time, he was growing a few acres of cotton and tobacco on rented land, plowing his crops morning and evening with an ox, and making ends meet by teaching in a one-room Florida school.

BAD LUCK STRIKES

Within five years, the Cooneys had saved up enough to buy a pair of mules and make the down-payment on 100 acres near Tallahassee. Then the bad luck struck. Their home burned and they moved to Monticello, Fla., where they had lived once before, and began renting again.

In 1950 they moved to Boston, Ga., and started buying 306 acres. Within a few years, they had sold enough timber off the farm to complete the payment.

Today, Mr. and Mrs. Cooney and their four children live in an attractive home. Their beautifully landscaped yard even has a small fish pond. In the backyard their tractor and other equipment are housed in a shed when not in use.

PRODUCE EGGS

Mrs. Cooney has 60 layers from which she gathers around 10 dozen eggs a week. Most of these are sold in town.

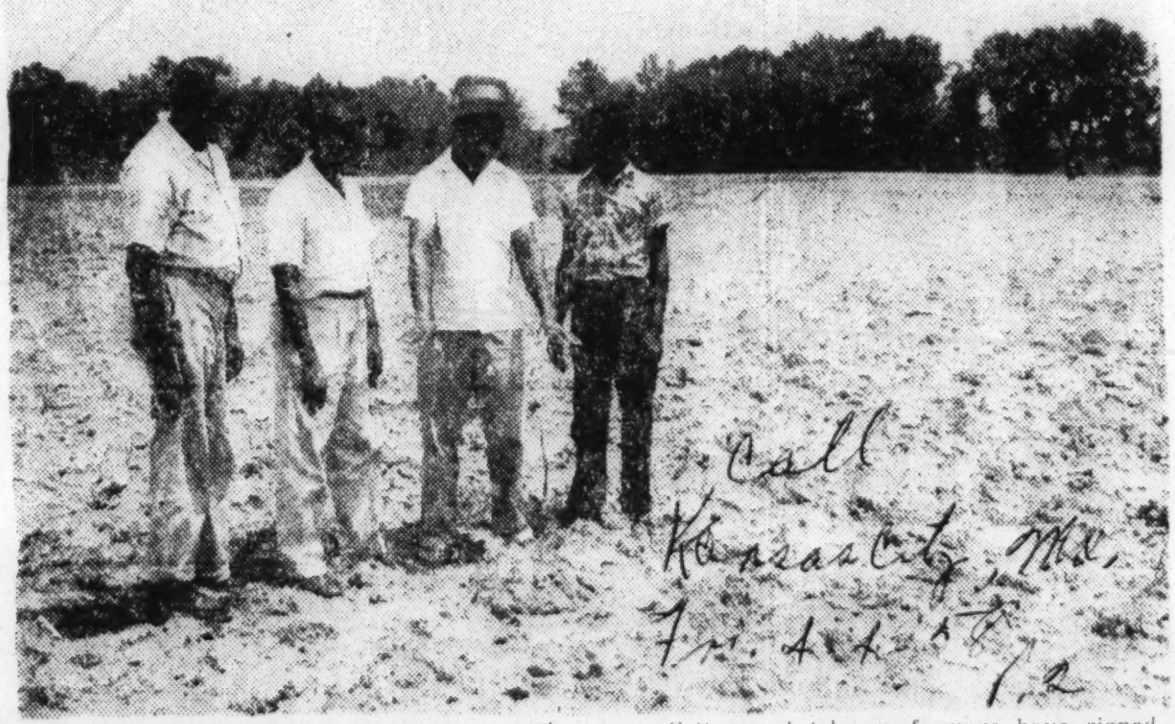
Cooney is growing into livestock production. He has 22 head of Aberdeen Angus cattle, including two purebred bulls. Also he has five Duroc and Beltsville No. 1 sows. His livestock is grazed in 60 acres of pastures and finished on 100 acres of corn.

"I plan to continue expanding my livestock and cutting back on cotton and tobacco," says Cooney. "I just don't have the help to handle these crops, and I don't intend to keep my children out of school."

THE BENJAMIN COONEYS are one of the outstanding farm families of Boston, Ga., who, cooperating with the United States Department of Agriculture, have joined with thousands of white and colored cotton and tobacco farmers in alloting acres for the Soil Bank program to help reduce price-depressing farm surpluses. In the photo at left Benjamin Cooney, second from right is shown with one of his

sons, Soloman, right, discussing the Soil Bank program with County agent C. W. McIver, left, and State Extension Supervisor A. S. Bacon. In the picture at right, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Cooney are shown in the beautifully landscaped yard of their home checking for insects and plant diseases among the shrubs and flowers. Helping them check on their 306 acre farm is their home agent, Mrs. Lillian B. Valentine.

FARM HOME.—Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Cooney of Boston, Ga., are checking for insects and plant diseases among the shrubs and flowers in their beautifully landscaped yard. Their home agent, Mrs. Lillian B. Valentine, is helping them check. Note the attractive home in background. The Cooneys own a 306-acre farm.
—USDA Photo.



LAND IN SOIL BANK.—Benjamin Cooney, second from right, of Boston, Ga., has put this cotton land and his two-acre tobacco allotment in the acreage reserve of the soil bank. He and one of his sons, Solomon, right, are discussing the soil bank program with County Agent C. W. McIver, left; and State Extension Supervisor A. S. Bacon. Cotton and tobacco farmers have signed up to put over 3,000,000 acres in the acreage reserve; and the figure could reach 5,000,000. Farmers receive rental payments to help maintain their net income while cooperating with other growers to reduce price-depressing surpluses.—USDA Photo.

Farming Is Backbone of Eminence

Negroes Here Operate A Variety of Businesses

By Clarence L. Matthews

In Henry County approximately 40 miles northeast of Louisville is the city of Eminence, largest city of it's home county and thriving farm community for some 2,000 Negroes and whites who comprise the population.

Situated in one of the richest tobacco and grain regions of the commonwealth, residents of Eminence justly derive three quarters of their income from farm products. Henry County itself, is one of the leading corn producing counties in the state.

Henry County was formed in 1798 out of neighboring Shelby County. The county, which was 31st in order of formation in the state, was named after the then Governor of Virginia, Patrick Henry. Kentucky during this period was a part of Virginia.

Eminence was incorporated as a city in 1851. The population in the entire county then was little over 600 people. The city is only four miles from Newcastle, the seat of Henry County. It is also strategically located near the big tobacco warehouse in Shelbyville ten miles away.

Employment

Employment for the approximately 500 Negroes located in the city and county is found chiefly in farming or farm connected enterprises. There are a number owning their own farms and some share cropping, as are many whites.

One Negro woman, Mrs. Willis Kelley runs a 150 acre farm on the outskirts of the city. She farms tobacco and corn and raises pigs and cows. A number of farmers in this area also raise a great number of sheep. The Emence region is particularly well suited for grazing of livestock.

A few of the businessmen of the area are James Gray, Harry Young, Harry Thomas and Bill Henderson. Young and Thomas are operators of a restaurant. Gray is owner of a modern pool room on Sulphur street in the heart of Eminence. Henderson, who lives on a small 8 acre farm, produces a variety of crops and raises pigs, chickens and turkeys.

Henderson and his brother, Eugene, also own and operated Henderson Brothers Slaughter house. Bill and his brother have ran the slaughter house together for five years. Previous to this, Bill operated the business by himself for 20 years.

Bill Henderson became interested in this unique business while working as a helper in a slaughter house in his home county of Franklin. Henderson said that he kills for farmers and not for lockers including some of his own stock.

Slaughter House

The slaughter house operates in the spring of the year with most of the business coming from nearby farmers. Henderson, after slaughtering, takes his own stock to a locker for processing. During the year Henderson is kept busy tending to his farm.

Another businessman of the area is George Armstrong. Armstrong operates a garage located in the center of one of the predominately Negro sections of the city. Armstrong services cars and trucks from both white and Negro.

Others engaged in business are Julius Mason, who operates a printing shop on Sulphur street and Georgetta Marshall who owns and operates a beauty shop. Anita Hayden, a Negro, is employed in a dress shop in the downtown section of Eminence. She is a clerk. Currently there are no Negro doctors, lawyers or Dentists practising in Eminence.

Politics

Politics for the residents of this city, both Negro and white, is Democratically inclined. This holds true in the county as well.

Race relations, with the exception of a recent petition among whites to block the sale of downtown property to Negroes for the purpose of building a church, has been good. The First Baptist Church is negotiating to buy the property.

Although there does exist two distinct Negro areas in Eminence, Negroes lived scattered about the city and county. They live on the fringe of white areas, in the midst of white sections and in several farms which border white property.

School integration here has progressed smoothly since its inception in 1956. Previous to integration, the majority of Eminence high school pupils attended Lincoln Institute. Many still attend the Lincoln Ridge school.

Integration

There is still remaining in Eminence an all-Negro elementary school. High school students now attend the Eminence High School. In the two years that they have attend the school, Negro students have been well integrated into the school pattern. One Negro girl attend an integrated Henry County high school. There are 120 Negro pupils in the elementary school.

James Martin and John Lindsey, Jr. were regulars on the Eminence High School football team during the past season. Occasionally Lindsey and Martin were thrust into starring roles during these games.

Negroes of the city are not connected in any capacity with the local government. At the present no Negroes are connected with the police force, fire department or any other municiple operation.

One of the pioneer families of Eminence is that of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Armstrong. Mrs. Armstrong has taught school in vicinity of the city for several years. She has taught at Port Royal, Franklin County, Campbellsburg and Newcastle schools. Mr. Armstrong is the district representative for Mammoth Insurance Company.

AN ABLE EXPERT with this sickle like farm tool is Bill Henderson. Bill, who owns an 8 acre farm in Eminence, also operates with his brother, Eugene, a slaughter house. The slaughter house operates in the spring of the year.

PART of the many assets of Eminence are the above young members of the Armstrong, family, (l-r) Mary Hortense, Patricia Armstrong and Margaret Armstrong. The girls are all daughters of Mr. and Mrs. George Armstrong with the exception of Mrs. Hortense Armstrong who is a daughter-in-law.

ADVICE AND CREDIT — Advice and credit from the Farmers Home Administration went hand in hand in helping Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Broussard of Lafayette Parish, La., to put their farming on a sound footing and replace their old three-room cabin with this attractive three-bedroom home. Gaston LeBlanc, left, their parish Farmers Home supervisor, has dropped by for an informal visit and is discussing a point in their farm plan. Looking on at right is 18-year-old John, one of their eight children. He plans to go to college to study animal husbandry. The Broussards were working on their half-acre landscaped lawn when LeBlanc drove up. — USDA PHOTO.

U. S. Aid Saves La. Farm, Home

"We would lose our farm, if we didn't follow improved practices to get higher yields," says Clarence Broussard, champion cotton farmer of Lafayette Parish, La., who was helped in his upward climb by credit aid and counsel from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Seven years ago Mr. and Mrs. Broussard and their eight children were living in a three-room cabin on a waterlogged 40-acre farm. They were having difficulty paying off the mortgage with a cotton yield of 230 pounds of lint to the acre and a corn yield of 12 bushels, says J. A. Lloyd, a Louisiana loan servicing representative of the Farmers Home Administration.

But today there is a different story, Lloyd points out. The Broussards live in an attractive three-bedroom home with a half-acre landscaped lawn.

REPLACE MULES

They have replaced their mules with a tractor, put in a drainage system for their 40 acres and purchased 20 acres more. Their farm is diversified, their crops rotated, and their yields among the highest in the South.

Three years ago, with an average yield of 884 pounds per acre, the Broussards won the parish-wide cotton yield contest. They used their prize money to install a bathroom in their home.

The next year their cotton yield was up to 1,250 pounds of lint per acre, their corn stood at 80 bushels per acre, instead of 12, and their sweetpotato output had risen from 110 to 180 bushels per acre.

SELL OTHER PRODUCTS

In addition, the Broussards sell around 40 dozen eggs a week, 30 hogs a year, four or five calves from their herd of 16 head of grade and purebred Angus, and their records show receipts of more than $1,000 a year from cayenne peppers.

But Mr. and Mrs. Broussards are not putting all their time into crops and livestock. They are devoting much of it to the rearing of their children. Two are already in college at Southern university, Baton Rouge, La., and at Tuskegee. The other six are headed in the same direction.

So well have the Broussards done with their crops and their children on their small farm that they were selected three years ago as "The Family of the Year" by Southern's school of agriculture.

And last year they walked away from the college's livestock and poultry show with more than $200 in prize money for the Angus heifers and Jersey Black Giant chickens they exhibited.

The change for the Broussards began in 1951, says Lloyd, when the Farmers Home made them a loan to buy 20 acres more land, build a home and a barn and a poultry house, and fence and develop pastures.

17 YEARS HIT OR MISS

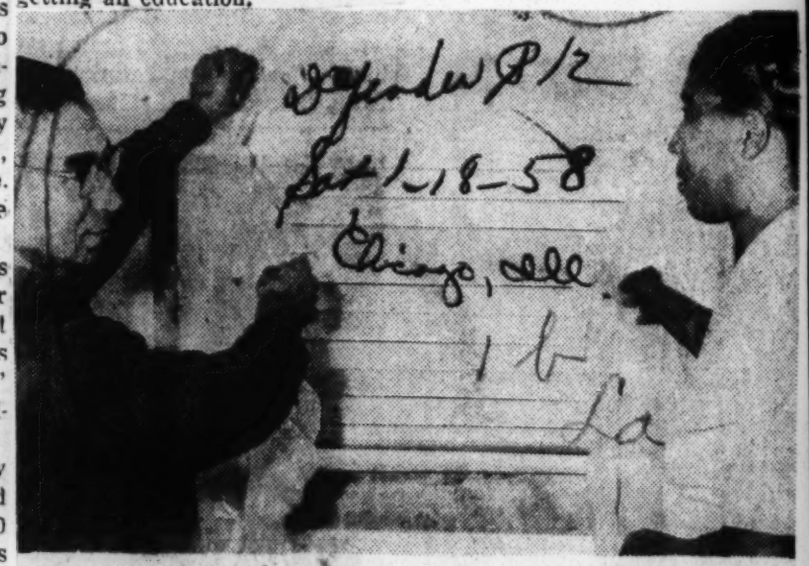
With the loan went help in planning and management. Before that, Mr. and Mrs. Broussards had been farming hit or miss for 17 years, trying to make out somehow when substantial credit aid was needed to put their farm on a sound footing.

At the suggestion of their parish Farmers Home supervisor, Gaston LeBlanc, the Broussards applied to their Soil Conservation District for technical assistance in mapping their farm and having their soil tested so they would know how best to treat and use each acre.

The major treatment needed was drainage. The Agricultural Conservation Program Service shared the cost of putting in a drainage system.

Drainage plus selection of improved seed varieties plus proper fertilization of their crops plus more effective insect control have meant the difference in yields, says Lloyd.

If we didn't use these improved practices to get higher yields, comments Broussard, we would lose our farm, and our children would have a very slim chance of getting an education.



COTTON PRIZE - MONEY BATHROOM — Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Broussard, champion cotton farmers of Lafayette Parish, La., are adjusting the curtains in their recently equipped bathroom. Prize money for getting the highest cotton yield of any farmer in the county three years ago covered the cost of the fixtures. They got an average yield of 884 pounds of lint. The next year they upped that to 1,250 pounds. — USDA PHOTO.

WORKING OUT FERTILIZER PROBLEM -- County Agent Thomas J. Smith, right, of Pointe Coupee Parish, La., is working out a fertilizer problem for Anthony Rodney, Sr., second from right; and his son, Anthony, Jr., seated on tractor. Looking on are P. H. Stone, left, of the Federal Extension Office in Washington; and R. J. Courtney, assistant state agent of the Louisiana Extension Service. The Rodneys operate a 78-acre diversified farm near New Roads, La., in partnership. Note the father's modern home in background. He and his son did most of the construction work themselves. (USDA PHOTO)

USDA Gets Farm Housing Loan Program

Hogs Harvest Own Corn As Farmer Cuts Cotton Crop

Letting hogs harvest their own corn is a lot easier than picking cotton, says Assistant State Agent R. J. Courtney of the Louisiana Extension Service.

He and his agents, like many others throughout the South, are encouraging farmers to help make up for their loss of income, resulting from smaller cotton acreage allotments, by raising more hogs and other livestock.

Among the more successful of the Louisiana farmers who are pasturing hogs where cotton used to grow is Morris Barnes, a 50-acre operator of Palmetto, La.

When his cotton allotment was reduced by five acres four years ago to help keep production in line with demand, Barnes began to listen to County Agent Leon Robinson who was telling and showing farmers the modern methods of raising hogs for market.

Barnes decided to try his hand at raising hogs as a sideline source of income. He had raised a few all along for home use, but thought they were too much trouble to raise on a large scale.

But when Robinson explained about pastures and about growing corn and letting the hogs harvest it themselves, rather than the farmer pulling it and feeding it to them, Barnes was sold on the idea.

Year by year, he has increased his output. In 1957 he sold 70; this year he expects to market more than 100. Not only has he continued to develop improved pastures and to work toward higher corn yields for his hogs, but he has also improved the quality of his breeding stock. In five and a half months his Grade Durocs are ready for market.

In addition to hogs, Barnes sells cotton, sweetpotatoes, and a few calves. And he adds to his earnings from these by doing custom work with his tractor and power saw when he is not busy driving his school bus.

Barnes' farming and sidelines are providing a modern home and a good living for him and his wife and their four children. But it hasn't always been like this, Barnes is quick to add.

When he and Mrs. Barnes were married 18 years ago, all they owned was a bed, a dresser, and kitchen stove. Through eight years of sharecropping and tenant farming, they saved up enough to begin buying 32 acres.

For a long time they counted on just cotton. The crop kept them busy plowing and planting and chopping and picking. With hogs now taking the place of some of their cotton, "we have more time for living," says Mrs. Barnes who is vice president of her Home Demonstration Club. Two years ago she won a State certificate for instructing 58 neighboring homemakers and 4-H girls in sewing.

One of her daughters, 17-year-old Erma Lee, now makes most of her clothes and helps with the family sewing. She has won 4-H prizes in sewing and in baking. Both Mrs. Barnes and her daughter get pointers on cooking and sewing from time to time from their home agent, Miss Irene S. Haskins.

The Barneses plan always to grow some cotton. "It wouldn't seem like farming if we weren't growing cotton," says Barnes, "but raising hogs is sure a lot easier."

POINTERS ON SEWING — Mrs. Morris Barnes and one of her daughters, 17 year-old Erma Lee (seated at the sewing machine) are shown getting pointers on sewing from their home agent, Miss Irene S. Haskins, right. Looking on at left is Mrs. Amelie Lewis, assistant state home agent. Mrs. Barnes has helped 58 neighboring homemakers and 4-H girls with their sewing. She saved from the sale of chickens and eggs to buy her sewing machine. — USDA Photo

HOGS REPLACE COTTON — Part of the hog crop of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Barnes, left, of Palmetto, La., is shown near the gate leading to seven acres of corn. The swine harvest or hog off the corn in the fall just before being marketed. This saves the farmer the trouble of pulling the corn and feeding it to the hogs. Looking over the crop with the couple are: Assistant State 4-H Agent Ashford O. Williams, and County Agent Leon Robinson. USDA Photo.

Farm Housing Now For Owners Of Small Farms

An expanded farm housing loan program designed to speed up farm building construction and improvement, as well as act as an additional anti-recession measure was announced Monday by Joshua A. Lloyd, Farmers Home Administration Loan Servicing Representative.

Now, an owner of a farm in agricultural production and on which the operator plans to produce at least $400 worth for farm commodities for sale or home use may qualify for the 4 per cent long-term housing loan provided that he meets other standard eligibility requirements.

Formerly, an eligible applicant had to own a farm that produced a more substantial part of the operator's annual cash income.

Borrowers may use loan funds to build, improve, or repair frame houses or other essential farm buildings, and to provide water for farmstead and household use. Lloyd said that in addition to financing major construction, the loan funds can help meet many other needs for farm and farm home modernization such as adding bathrooms, utility rooms, better kitchens, and many other improvements to the home as well as to farm service buildings. While tenants and farm laborers are not eligible, the owner may borrow to do construction work or make improvements for them.

The loans are made to farm owners who need credit to finance building improvements or repairs, but find that adequate credit is not available through banks or other regular channels. The interest rate is 4 per cent and loans may be amortized over periods up to 33 years.

For further information or application contact the Parish Farmers Home Administration Office serving the area in which you own your farm and expect to make the improvements. If unable to locate the local office, you may contact J. A. Lloyd, Loan Servicing Representative, Farmers Home Administration, P.O. Box 9863, Southern Branch Post Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

1b 1958

MARKET OUTLETS FOR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE BULLETIN

Langston U. Graduate Helps Author Bulletin On Livestock Marketing

Victor B. Phillips, a Langston Okla., University graduate, who is now an agricultural economist in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has co-authored a recent USDA bulletin, "Market Outlets for Livestock Producers."

Sharing with Mr. Phillips in the authorship is his chief, Gerald Engleman, head of the livestock section of the Market Organization and Cost Branch.

The publication presents a brief resume of the development, growth, and change in pattern of livestock market outlets in the United States. The data show a decline in sales through terminal markets, and an increase in sales through auction markets and "country" for direct selling during the past 36 years.

New Meat-Type Hog And Commercial Egg Producing Project To Up State Annual Farm Income 3½ Million

Additional new annual net income amounting to $3,500,000 or better will be made possible for Mississippi farmers through a commercial egg and meat-type hog producing, financing and marketing project to be launched immediately in a united project involving a $8 million investment.

The project is under the auspices of Mississippi Federated Cooperatives, and its member county co-ops, with banks and other lending agencies, and agricultural agencies collaborating.

Following approval by the MFC board of directors on Thursday, the Federation through its member co-ops, and lending agencies will enable 500 farmers to get into the commercial egg producing business within 24 months with financing and marketing facilities assured, according to MFC General Manager Ernest Spivey. The goal is a million laying hens in production within a year.

It is also anticipated that farmers will have 8,000 brood sows, and between 150,000 and 160,000 meat type hogs marketed within that period of time.

Faced with the trend toward integrated or contract farming, officials of the federation desired to provide a free-enterprise type of project whereby the farmer takes the risk and receives all the profit.

The decision to launch the project culminated months of study and research made in an effort to put the farmer in busines for himself and to allevate marketing problems. The anticipated 18 million dozen eggs annually produced should convert Mississippi from a deficit area of egg supply.

Under the program a farmer considered a good risk by the lending agency can obtain long time loans for houses and equipment and in addition can get a loan for production expenses.

The county co-ops will make provision for picking up and marketing hogs, and eggs will be picked up at the farm and moved in refrigerated trucks to central marketing areas to be established by the Federation which has overall responsibility for the program and guarantees to market all production at market prices.

Plans call for the Federation to put into operation a cracking plant for submarginaly eggs, and when production warrants—a dressing plant for hens.

Palmetto Is First In Negro Contest

Mt. Zion, Second In Lee County Competition

From The Commercial Appeal Tupelo, Miss., Bureau

TUPELO, Miss., Dec. 11.—The Palmetto Negro community was named the most outstanding for the second consecutive year here Thursday night.

The community was named over 10 other organized Negro communities in Lee County, during the annual Negro Rural Community Development Banquet.

For first place Palmetto received $125, the Mt. Zion community of Cedar Hill, second, $75, and Union Baptist, third, $50.

The contest sponsored by the Tupelo Peoples Bank and Trust Co., awarded eight other communities $15 each for participation in the annual contest. They are Plantersville, Belden, Evergreen, Nettleton, Verona, Pine Grove, Mt. Zion of Brewer and Rhodes.

The special awards division of the contest sponsored by the Bank of Tupelo with first place receiving $7.50, second, $5 and third, $2.50 were:

Cotton — Rhodes, Palmetto, Nettleton and Union Baptist, (tie third).

Corn—Belden, Verona, Pine Grove.

Dairy — Nettleton, Evergreen and Verona.

Beef Cattle—Evergreen, Pine Grove, Nettleton.

Poultry and egg—Nettleton, Pine Grove and Evergreen.

Small Grains—Palmetto, Cedar Hill, Nettleton and Evergreen (tie third).

Truck crops—Union Baptist Palmetto, Evergreen.

Soil conservation—Evergreen.

Swine—Cedar Hill, Palmetto and Evergreen.

Negro Winners Hard Workers

Also Used Modern Methods, Say Families

REFUSED TO GIVE UP

Both families who were sweepstakes winners in the Negro division of The Commercial Appeal's 1958 Plant To Prosper Contest depended upon old-fashioned hard work, combined with modern methods.

Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Johnson of near Greenville, Miss., won the landowner division.

In the tenant division, honors went to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Perry of near Brownsville, Tenn.

Mr. Johnson farmed as a sharecropper from plantation to plantation for 22 years before he got a chance at farm ownership.

Sharecropper To Landowner

When, in 1938, he heard that there was a chance for a poor man to buy a farm through the Farmers Home Administration, he was quick to make application for a loan. Finally, he was approved for a 55-acre place.

And that marked the beginning of the rise of Elisha Johnson from abject poverty to economic security—from a one-mule sharecropper to a highly mechanized farm owner.

Parents of five children, all of whom are in school, the Johnsons did not win success and good living the easy way. They have worked hard, planned carefully and kept accurate records to guide them in their operations.

They love the land and consider it a trust, placed in their keeping to be made better, more productive.

Big crops of cotton, corn, soybeans and vegetables are grown on the Johnson place today, but this was not so 20 years ago. His first year on the farm resulted in "almost complete failure" due to a late start, bad weather and "well established Johnson gras."

Hard Work Necessary

"But I didn't give up," Mr. Johnson recalls. "I had an old mule, a wagon and some worn-out plow tools that I had dragged from plantation to plantation, so I stayed with the land.

"It took me several years of hard work to reclaim the farm and get it to where it would provide the family the kind of living we had always wanted. Today the farm is a high class sandy loam—some of the best land in the Mississippi Delta. Money couldn't buy it from me right now."

This year the Johnsons produced 34 bales of coton on 25 acres. Production also included 600 bushels of soybeans, 300 bushels of corn, 12 market hogs and most of the family's food supply and feed for all livestock. Additional cash was received from the sale of truck crops and poultry.

Good Practices Followed

In his farming operations, Mr. Johnson uses practices recommended by the Mississippi Extension Service. His land is fertilized after soil tests and rows are run to control water run-off. Winter cover crops are planted on most row-crop land, and approved insect control measures are used.

"I have kept farm records ever since I have been on this place," Mr. Johnson said. "These records have played a big part in teaching me to do a better job of farming."

The Johnsons are members of the Baptist Church. He is a deacon and Mrs. Johnson is a Sunday School teacher. A member of the Farm Bureau, he is also a member of the County Agricultural Council and is a 4-H Club project leader.

Mrs. Johnson is a Home Demonstration Club member, and all the children are members of the 4-H Club.

First Crop Failed

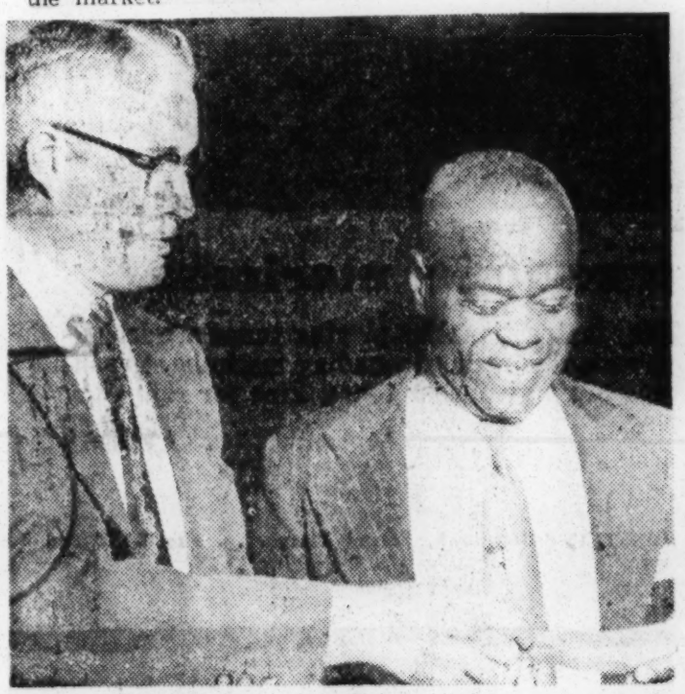
The Perrys have a large family to share their joy and honor. The Perry children are Creola, 18; Gertie B., 16; Andrew Lee, 14; Henry Lee, 12; Ezekiel, 10; Willie D., 8; Joseph, 6 and Sharon Kate, 2.

It was, in fact, his growing family that brought Mr. Perry back to the farm. He writes of his life on the farm:

"I grew up on a farm, but having grown up, I left and found other work. When my family started increasing so rapidly, I saw the need to go back to the farm in order to make a living for my family. My first crop produced one bale of cotton, and the seeds wouldn't pay for the ginning.

"Through the help and instruction of the county farm agents I have worked hard improving the land and my farm practices. I have given my children advantage of the public school. Five have finished the eighth grade, two have finished high school, three are in high school now, and the others are in elementary school.

"Now we raise all the food that we can, and we buy only those things that we can't raise. I have found that growing cotton isn't all of farming. Along with increasing my yield in cotton, I plant tomatoes, potatoes, corn, sorghum, peas, beans, okra, strawberries, unmpkins, and turnip greens for home use and for the market."



JOY FOR JOHNSON—Elisha Johnson of Greenville, Miss., was overjoyed when he learned he had been selected as the landowner winner over a four-state area. For his participation in Plant To Prosper this year he received $400 from John Hembree, member of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce agriculture committee, the awards being $250 from the C. of C. and $150 from The Commercial Appeal.

SERVICES RECOGNIZED — Professional agricultural workers who produced the sweepstakes champions in the Negro division of The Commercial Appeal's 1958 Plant To Prosper Contest were awarded plaques for their services at the annual rally at Booker T. Washington High School yesterday. Receiving the awards from Walter Durham, contest director, were (from left) Mrs. Maggie O. Moore, Negro home demonstration agent, and F. E. Jeffries, Negro county agent of Haywood County, Tenn., who had the tenant champions, Charles Burton, Negro county agent, and Delors E. Magee, assistant county supervisor of the Farmers Home Administration in Washington County, Miss., who had the top landowner.

TENANT CHAMPIONS—Prof. R. J. Roddy (left), manager of the Tri-State Fair, presented the Fair's check of $250 to Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Perry of near Brownsville in Haywood County, Tenn., who were chosen as tenant sweepstakes champions. Renters of a 90-acre cotton, corn and truck crop farm, the Perrys also received a $50 state prize from The Commercial Appeal.

...ial Reveals Negro Winners

...Missouri Landowner Prize Goes To Woman

...PEMISCOT TENANT FIRST

...that the Orlander Mister family of Route 2, Steele, Pemiscot County, 1957 state landowner champions, have entered for the sweepstakes award.

Second place in the tenant division was won by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Andrews of Route 4, Sikeston, Scott County, who farm 22 acres. They will receive $37.50.

Chosen for the $32.50 third place prize in the landowner division were the Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Blissett of Route 1, Oran, Scott County, who have 49 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Wilson of Wardell, Pemiscot County, won a $32.50 prize for placing third in the tenant division. They rent 28 acres.

Fourth place and a $25 prize in the tenant division went to Mr. and Mrs. Willie ... Grissom of Route 1, Charleston, Mississippi County, who grow cotton, soybeans and hogs on an 80-acre place.

Named as fourth place landowner winners were Mr. and Mrs. Isiah Marks of Route 2, Essex, Stoddard County. They have an 80-acre cotton, soybean and hog operation, and will receive a $25 prize.

Winning honorable mention in the judging were Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Mosley of Oran, Mr. and Mrs. Isom Dunnigan of East Prairie and Mrs. Lula Walls of Neelyville, Butler County.

1b 1958

NATIONAL NEGRO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS ASSOCIATION

FARMING CHANGING RAPIDLY

County Agents Urged To Adjust Role To Needs Of Rural Families

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Farming in the South is making some rapid changes, and the county agricultural agent of the Cooperative Extension Service must change fast, too, in order to continue meeting the needs of farm people.

This is the answer speakers gave at the seventh annual convention of the National Negro County Agricultural Agents Association, meeting here recently at Tennessee A&I State university, in reply to the organization's question as to the agent's role in a changing agricultural economy.

Principal speaker for the conference was Louis Levine, Assistant director, Bureau of Labor Security of the U. S. Department of Labor. He said from an employment point of view, agriculture is a dying industry. The need for manpower on the farm is becoming less year by year as a result of mechanization and farm technology which are displacing sharecroppers and day laborers.

The answer to the problem, Levine said, is increased industriali-zation in the South, better working conditions for migrant farm workers, and improved educational opportunities to help prepare displaced farm people for non-farm jobs.

SHERMAN BRISCOE

Other speakers on the three-day program were Gerald H. Huffman, assistant administrator, Federal Extension Service of the US Department of Agriculture; P. H. Stone, Huffman's assistant; Sherman Briscoe of the USDA Office of Information; and Dr. Ivan E. Miles of Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation.

The four took part in a symposium on the subject: "Role of the county extension agent in a changing agricultural economy. They stressed the trend toward larger and fewer farms, increased farm efficiency, and the need for part-time and full-time off-farm employment opportunities or small operators.

Mr. Huffman and the members of the panel agreed that in the light of these changes, county agents must (1) become better educational technicians, working other technicians and specialists, (2) place greater emphasis on farm management, marketing, and farm and home development, and (3) give more help to 4-H'ers in exploring career opportunities outside agriculture.

The panel was moderated by W. H. Williamson, assistant state agent of the Tennessee Extension Service. Earlier, he joined with Mayor Ben West in welcoming the group to Nashville. Words of welcome were extended to the delegation of agents from across the South also by Dr. W. S. Davis, president of Tennessee A&I State university; W. F. Moss, commissioner of agriculture; Dr. W. A. Flowers, director of the university's rural services; and V. W. Darter, director of the Tennessee Extension Service.

AGENTS CITED

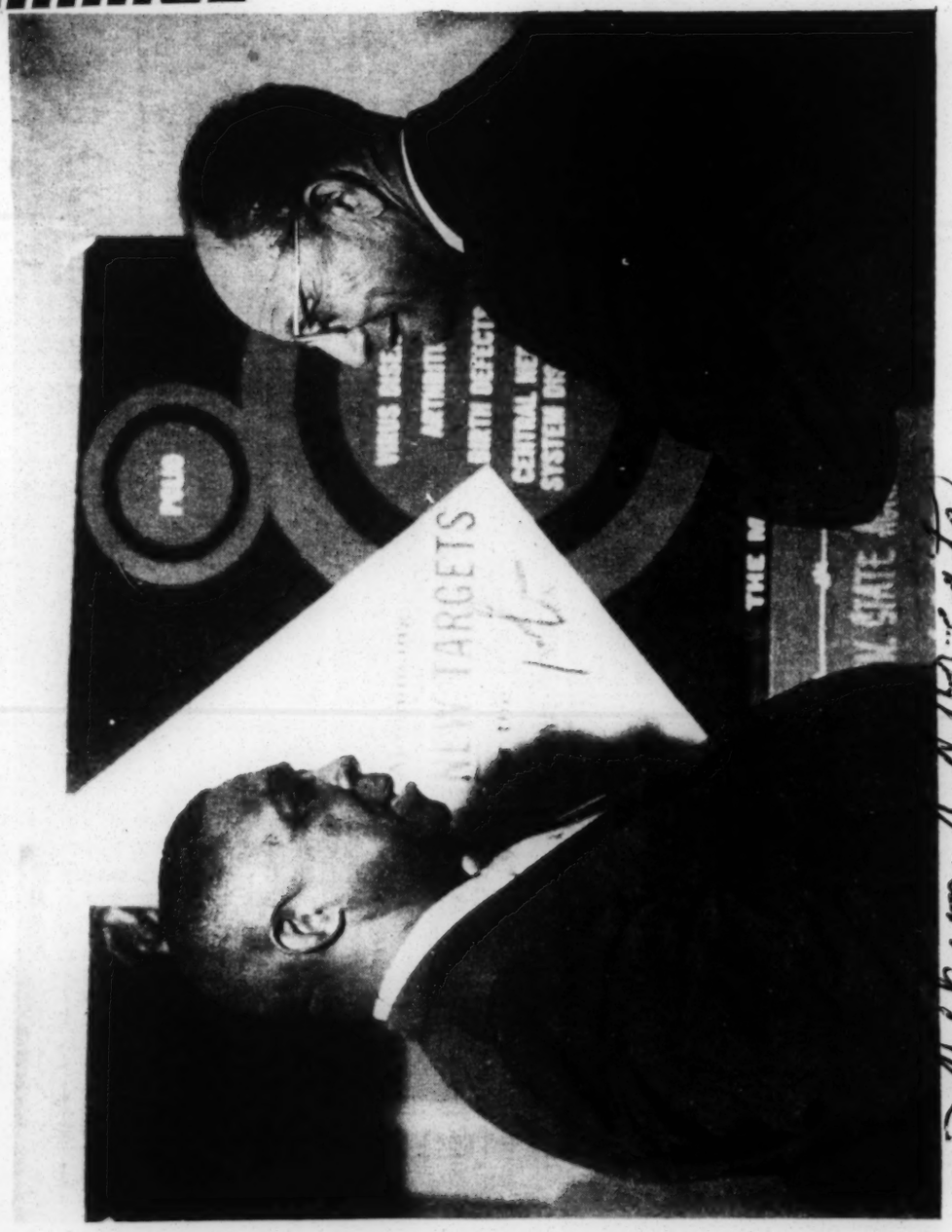
A feature of the dinner planned by president of the association. B. D. Harrison, was the presentation of citations to the agents who had been selected in their respective states as County Agent of the Year.

These were R. J. Thurston of Alabama; J. B. Stevens, Georgia; Leon Robinson, Louisiana; I. D. Thompson, Mississippi; C. D. Ashley, Oklahoma; J. R. Branham, Tennessee; and K. K. Dangerfield, Texas.

Officers elected for the coming year are L. C. Johnson, Alabama, president; D. P. Lilly, Oklahoma, first vice president; H. L. Hubbard, Texas, second vice president; I. D. Thompson, Mississippi, third vice president; M. E. McCoy; Arkansas, secretary; K. K. Dangerfield, Texas, assistant secretary; Leon Robinson, Louisiana, treasurer; C. L. Tapley, Georgia, parliamentarian; T. H. Black, Oklahoma, historian; J. C. Dunbar, Mississippi, public relations director; Charles Reed, Arkansas, sergeant at arms and G. A. Newbern, Tenn., chaplain.

The 1959 convention will be held at Florida A&M university, Tallahassee, Fla.

National Figures Eye New Targets



B. D. Harrison, president of the National Negro Agricultural Agents Association, pays tribute to Dr. Tyler Boswell, vice-president of Tennessee A & I College. The N.N.C.A.A. endorsed the expanded program of the convention sessions to discuss the expanded program of The National Foundation March of Dimes, nonprofit organization.

1b 1958

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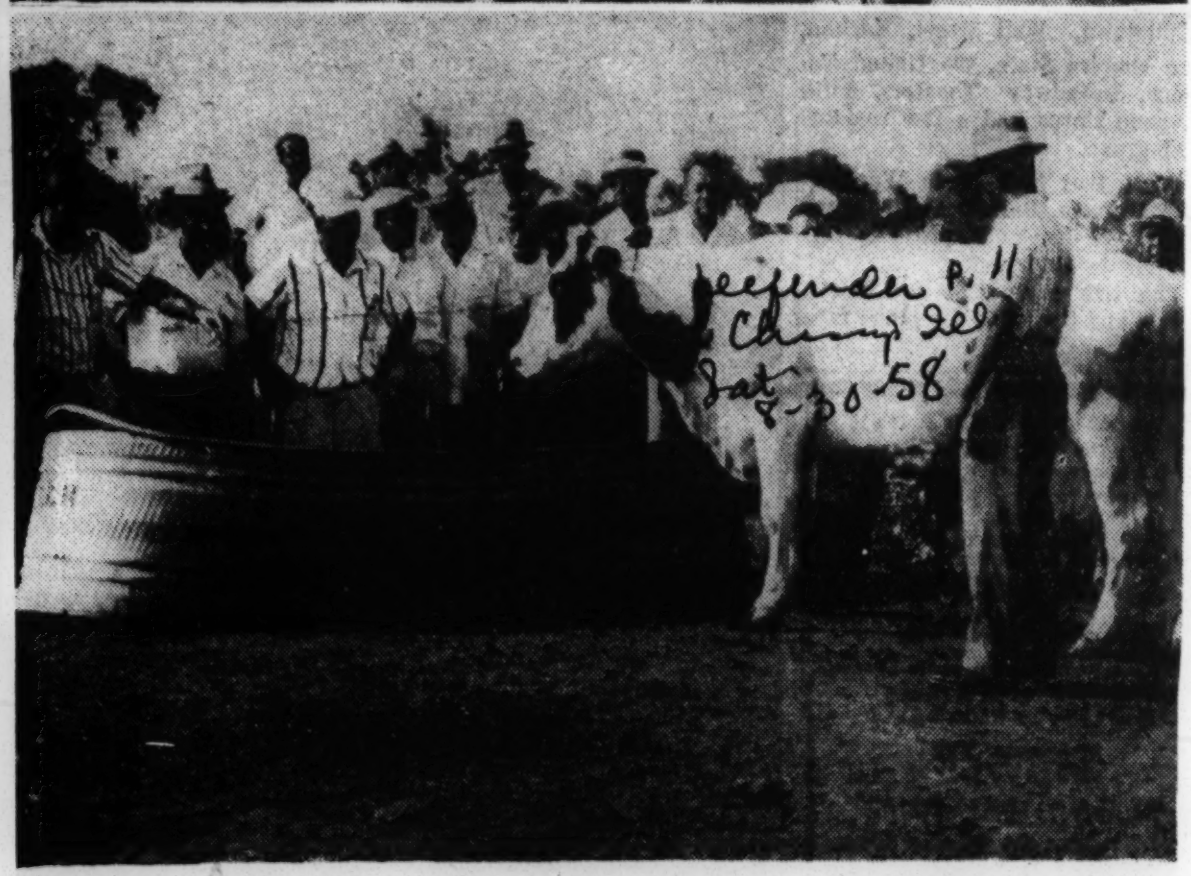
The 1959 convention will be held at Florida A&M university, Tallahassee, Fla.

National Figures Eye New Targets

B. D. Harrison, president of the National Negro Agricultural Agents Association, pauses between convention sessions to discuss the expanded program of The National Foundation with Dr. Alger Bosswell, vice-president of Tennessee A & I College. The NNAAA endorsed the expanded program of the March of Dimes supported organization.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY in Nashville recently was host to seventh annual convention of the National Negro County Agents association. In photo A some delegates can be seen getting a look at a miniature cotton gin. Left to right are: G. A. Newborn, the association's chaplain, of Columbia, Tenn.; Dr. Fred Westbrooks. an agronomist at A and I; Gerald H. Huffman, assistant administrator of the Federal Extension service; Robert F. Jones, Montgomery, Ala.; P. H. Stone of the Federal Extension Service; D. P. Lilly, the Association's first vice president, Okmulgee, Okla., and Dr. M. F. Spaulding, director of agriculture at A and I. In photo B at bottom, delegates are getting a look at Tennessee's champion milker. T. R. Wood, assistant professor of animal husbandry at A and I (standing by cow) pointed out that this Holstein produced 21,429 pints of milk in 344 days last year, highest production in the state. The cow is owned by the university.

National Home Demonstration Agents Hold First Annual Meeting In Ark.

PINE BLUFF, Ark. — "Readjustment or Better Living" was the theme of the first annual meeting of the National Negro Demonstration Agents' association when they met recently at Arkansas A. M. and N. college.

There were representatives from five states, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas.

The session opened with a reception and get acquainted party in the banquet room of the Student lounge. Mrs. Iola B. Khone, chairman of the social committee, introduced the guests by states and assisted with the get acquainted games.

The first general session was presided over by Mrs. Marguerite P. Williams, Little Rock, Ark., first vice president. Greetings came from Dr. J. D. Jones, director of student personnel, Arkansas A. M. and N. college; C. A. Vines, associate director, Arkansas Agricultural Extension Service; Mrs. Phillis F. Greenhouse, director of home economics, A. M. and N. college.

The response was given by Miss Vera S. Dial, Houston, Texas.

"Readjustment for Better Living" was discussed by Mrs. Hazel Jordan, Arkansas State Home Demonstration agent, Little Rock. Lead participants in the panel discussion following the address were representatives from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Mr. Lillie Alexander, program leader, Southern States, Federal Extension Service, USDA, Washington, D. C., talked to the group about "Homemakers Responsibilities in an Age of Change."

She was introduced by Mrs. Amelia Lewis, assistant state home demonstration agent for work with Negroes in Louisiana.

To give the agents ideas in keeping up-to-date, Mrs. Imogene Johnson, home electrification advisor of Woodruff Electric Co-op, Forrest City, Ark., talked to the group.

P. H. Stone, assistant to assistant administrator, programs, Federal Extension Service, Washington, D. C., was the guest speaker at the banquet.

Mrs. Bernice D. McKay, Negro County Home Demonstration agent, Athens, Tex., introduced the speaker.

Orchid corsages were presented to retiring agents, State Home Demonstration Agents in attendance and the President of the Association. Mrs. Juanita Williams Fort Worth, Tex., presented the corsage to the president.

Mrs. O. Palmer, presented the corsages to Mesdames Fannie Mae Boone, retired district home demonstration agent, Arkansas; Amelia Lewis, assistant state home demonstration agent, Louisiana; Daisy N. Lewis, district home demonstration agent, Mississippi, and Mrs. Bernice D. McKay, home demonstration agent, Texas.

The president, Mrs. Palmer, in her annual address, emphasized guideposts for successful living.

The following day's schedule included a tour of Winrock Farm, Petit Jean Mountain, Morrilton, Ark.

Guests other than those speakers on program were The Misses Joan Henderson, assistant home demonstration agent and Novella Clark, home demonstration agent, Jefferson County, Ark.;

Mrs. Fannie M. Boone, retired home demonstration agent, Ark.; A. H. Fuhr, USDA; L. L. Phillips, State 4-H Club agent, Arkansas; M. E. McCoy, Jefferson County Agricultural agent, Arkansas; W. R. Dansby, Cross County agriculture agent, Arkansas, and T. R. Betton, State agent, Arkansas.

The home demonstration agents were entertained with a social, courtesy of Arkansas Extension Agents' association, at the Riviola Club. Music for the session was through the courtesy of the music department, Arkansas A. M. and N. college.

Mrs. Georgia Sanders, Winnsboro, La., was elected second vice president and Miss Dorothy A. Doakes, Idabell, Okla., was elected chaplain.

There were four agents from Louisiana, nine from Mississippi, two from Oklahoma, seven from Texas and 25 from Arkansas. There were 16 visitors in attendance.

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Study Needs Of Rural Families

Ways of more effectively meeting the changing needs of rural families claimed the attention of the first annual meeting of the National Negro Home Demonstration Agents Association recently at Arkansas State A. M. and N. college, Pine Bluff, Ark.

Among the speakers were Mrs. Hazel C. Jordan, State home demonstration agent of Arkansas; and Mrs. Lillie M. Alexander and P. H. Stone of the Federal Extension Service, Washington, D. C.

READJUST

All three urged the home agents to continue to rea djust their teaching methods to changing conditions as a means of more effectively helping farm people achieve a higher standard of living.

Emphasis was placed on the increased need for helping farm families to improve their patterns of living, discover more opportunities for development, and seek better approaches to the solution of family problems.

Officers of the new association are: Mrs. Lillian O. Palmer, Natchez, Miss., president; Mrs. Bernice McKay, Athens, Tex., first vice president; Mrs. Georgia D. Sanders, Winnsboro, La., second vice president; Mrs. Gertrude Pollard, Mound Bayou, Miss., third vice president.

Also Mrs. Carreather F. Banks, Forrest City, Ark., recording secretary; Miss Juanita Williams, Fort Worth, Tex., corresponding secretary; Miss Alice Little, Tupelo, Miss., treasurer; Mrs. Iola B. Rhone, Texarkana, Ark., parliamentarian; Mrs. Jennie B. Wright, Little Rock, Ark., chaplain; Mrs. Welthea R. Cox, Canton, Miss., historian; and Miss Vera S. Dial, Houston, Tex., reporter.

In attendance were delegates from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. Mrs. Marguerite P. Williams, Little Rock, Ark., former second vice president, served as chairman of the host delegation.

HOME AGENTS HONORED — Six home demonstration agents were honored for their effective service by the National Negro Home Demonstration Agents Association during its first convention recently at Arkansas A. M. & N. college, Pine Bluff. Mrs. Lillian O. Palmer, Natchez, Miss., president of the organization, is pinning an orchid of honor on Mrs. Marguerite P. Williams, district home agent of Arkansas. Others honored, left to right, are: Mrs. Fannie M. Boone, retired district home agent of Arkansas; Mrs. Amelia Lewis, assistant state home agent of Louisiana; Mrs. Daisy M. Lewis, district home agent of Mississippi; Mrs. Bessie R. Gay, home agent of Leflore County, Miss.; and Mrs. Bernice McKay, home agent of Henderson County, Tex. — USDA Photo

Ala. Stands Tall At 24th National NFA Convention

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The Alabama Association of New Farmers of America represented by several of its local chapters took the state was thrown into the limelight when the competitive results in contests and placings in technical awards were announced.

An impressive record of five National first places and three sectional (Ala)., Ga., Fla., Tenn., Ky., make up the Sargent Section first places netting a total of $1525 in prizes and awards. A large amount of money for these prizes and awards. is made available and possible by the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., whose donors are among many interested individuals, organizations, business and industrial concerns. Donations are made annually to support the FFA Foundation, Inc.

WINS NFA HONORS"

Willie Lee Atkins, Route 1, Newbern, Alabama. 20 years old member of the Lincoln New Farmers of America Chapter at Marion, Alabama, was named the winner of the NFA's National Star Superior Farmer Award and was presented checks totaling $500 from Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc.

He started in dairying by buying 60 acres of land from his father at $50 per acre starting with 2 dairy heifers in 1951. He has increased his herd to 15 milk cows, and owns a 20 per cent partnership interest with his father, the two of them have an 80-cow dairy business.

Willie's income during four years in high school averaged $1,639.

In addition to the 60 acres owned Willie rents 60 acres and uses power farm machinery in his operations. Willie and his father owns 160 acres 2 milking machines, 2 tractors with all equipment, a combine, mowing machine ,hay press, power saw, 2 trucks, and a well equipped home shop. Willie's 20 per cent is conservatively valued at $14,690. Willie Atkins is married and has a small son.

David Tubbs, Jr., 18, a member of the Lincoln Chapter of the New Farmers of America, at Marion, Alabama, was named the winner of the NFA's National Award for outstanding achievement in Dairy Farming. He was presented a $200 check from the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc.

Last year Tubbs made a net profit of $3,116 from dairy farming. H. J. Beans is the teacher of vocational agriculture.

Johnny Lee Alexander, 18 years old, member of the Macon County Training School Chapter of New Farmers of America, at Roba, Alabama, was adjudged the winner of the NFA's National Farm Electrification Award and was presented a check from the FFA Foundation for $200.

Johnny Lee Alexander was born and reared on a farm near Roba, Alabama.

He assisted in wiring (9) dwelling houses and two deep well electric water pumps. He has also carried on a successful supervised farming program, that has grossed an average of $1,587 per year. He plans to further his studies in electronics.

John Jordan of the Council Training School, Normal, Alabama, won National First place Award in Public Speaking.

He is an outstanding member of his NFA Chapter and community and has in operation a very good supervised farming program in vocational agriculture. He was presented a check for $200 from the FFA Foundation, Inc. G. C. Moore is the teacher of vocational agriculture.

Willie O. Robinson, of the Calhoun County Training School, was declared the winner of first place in National NFA Talent Contest and was presented with a check for $75 from the National Organization of the New Farmers of America. Robinson is a member of the Calhoun County Training School Chapter at Anniston, Alabama. Lucian Howard is the teacher of vocationa lagriculture.

Bobby Bradford was the second place winner in the National NFA Quiz contest. He is from the Escambia County Training School Chapter of New Farmers of America and is outstanding in his Federation and Local Chapter. Bobby was presented a check for $500 from the National Organization of New Farmers of Amercia. Bishop E. Lyons is the teacher of vocation al agriculture.

TALLADEGA QUARTET WINS SINGING CONTEST

The quartet representing the Sartion came from Talladega Chapter of New Farmers of America. D. B. Armstrong is the teacher of vocational agricultre.

The sectional Soil and Water Management Award of $100 was won by Milton C. Germany, of the Macon County Training School Chapter of New Farmers of America. The award was provided by the FFA Foundation, Inc.

During the past three years, Milton has assisted in terracing 40 acres of land and established 8 acres of coastal Bermuda.

STATE STAR SUPERIOR FARMER

James Whitlow, of the Macon County Training School Chapter of the New Farmers of America, was awarded the degree of the Star Superior Farmer for outstanding work in continuing a superior program in farming as an outgrowth of his superivised farming in vocational agriculture. He was presented a check from the FFA Foundation, Inc., for $100. James was given a three-day pass from Jackson, South Carolina, by his superiors, where he is undergoing his six month reservists training obligation. He plans to return to his farm.

NFA and advisors open 5-day meet in Atlanta

ATLANTA—The 24th annual national convention of New Farmers of America opened here Monday for five days of meetings and other activities.

Some 1,200 New Farmers and their advisors are in attendance in addition to 50 delegates from 15 states.

The featured event Wednesday will include the presentation of the Star Superior Farmers Award of $500 and the awarding of $250 each to two regional farmers.

DR. F. D. PATTERSON of NYC, president of Phelps-Stokes Fund, and Dr. J. F. Drake, president of Alabama A. and M. College, will address morning and evening sessions, respectively, in Municipal Auditorium Wednesday.

Other headline speakers scheduled to speak are Joseph B. Martin, Allied Chemical Corp., NYC; Howard Downing, Nicholasville, Ky.; R. L. Cousina, Atlanta, Southern Education Foundation director; and Dr. Harry V. Richardson, president of Gammon Theological Seminary.

* * *

THE FINAL session on Friday will feature the national talent contest and the presentation of Future Farmers of America Foundation awards by national officers.

Some 21 New Farmers of America will be awarded Superior Farmer degrees, and honorary degrees will be presented to 20 adults who have given unusual service to the organization.

CHAMPS—Happy over having won a leg on the NFA trophy, members of the victorious Barrett Chapel High School team hold aloft their prize following their victory at the Tennessee A. and I. State U. convention of the Tennessee NFA. At left, supporting the trophy, are John Reed, chapter president, and vice president, Jimmy Pugh. At extreme right is James Coleman, faculty adviser.—Gunter Photo.

Arlington Youths Sparkle at Tenn. A. & I. Convention

Barrett's Chapel High Wins Tenn. NFA Awards!

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Boys from Barrett's Chapel High School of Arlington, Tenn., won first prize in the Tennessee New Farmers of America Convention Sweepstakes held at Tennessee A & I State University.

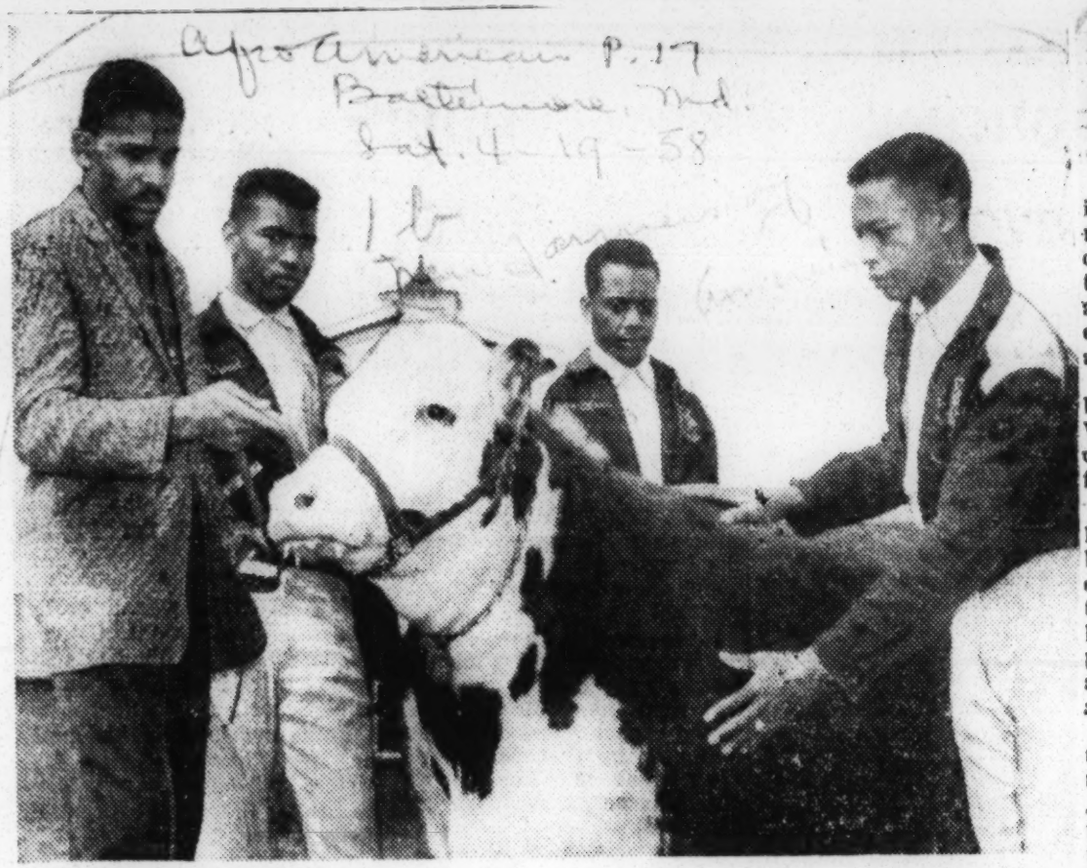
First-place winners for Barrett's Chapel included: Paul E. Poindexter, dairy cattle; Everett Holmes, poultry; Aaron Henderson, tool identification; and quartet singing, Edison Payne, Lee C. Guy, Melvin Guy, and Johnny Guy.

Emmett Rayland took fourth place in step cutting and Moses Shipp was third in talent. Oscar Payne won a second in seed identification.

BY WINNING, Barrett's Chapel was hard-pressed to nose out last year's winner, Mt. Pisgah High.

First place winners in judging included: William Stiger, Mt. Pisgah High, beef cattle; Eddie Evans, Somerville, swine; James Hunter, Whiteville, seed indentification; Frederick Williams, Chattanooga, rafter-cutting; and, Paul Tipton, Whiterville, step cutting.

Other winners were: Franklin E. Harper, Gallatin, star modern farmer; Thomas R. Drake, farm mechanics award; Wendell Bonds, Ripley, farm and home electrification; Leon W. Shannon, Nashville, farm and home improvement; James W. Johnson Jr., Mason, soil and water management; John Nabors, Covington, public speaking; Milton Albritton, Mason, NBA quiz; and, Eddie Evans, Somerville, talent.



INTENSE SERIOUSNESS is the keyword of Barrett's Chapel high's first place winners of Livestock judging in NFA convention competition at Tennessee State University recently. Left to right, Joe Parker, Tennessee State graduate student in animal husbandry and Glyn Buck, Arthur Lee Cooper, and James Earl Johnson, the winners from Barrett's Chapel high school of Shelby County.

Barret's Chapel takes NFA sweepstake prize

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Tennessee New Farmers of America convention at Tennessee State University last week awarded first prize in the sweepstake judges to Barret's Chapel High of Arlington.

Barret's Chapel team outpointed a strong Mt. Pisgah High School team, who last year won an all important limb of the tri-leg trophy which requires winning three years to keep it permanent.

First place winners for Barret's Chapel were Paul E. Poindexter, dairy cattle; Everett Holmes, poultry; Aaron Henderson, tool identification; and Edison Payne, Lee C. Guy, Melvin Guy and Johnny Guy, quartet singing.

OTHER STANDOUTS for Barret's Chapel were Emmitt Rayland, fourth in step cutting; Moses Shipp, third in talent and Oscar Payne, second in seed identification.

Other first place winners in the contests were Franklin E. Harper, Gallatin, star modern farmer; Thomas R. Drake, farm mechanics award; Windell Bonds, Ripley, farm and home electrification; Leon W. Shannon, Nashville, farm and home improvement;

* * *

JAMES W. JOHNSON JR., mason, soil and water management; John Nabors, Covington public speaking; Milton Albriton, mason NRA Quiz; Eddi Evans, Somerville, talent.

First place winners in judging were William Stiger, M Pisgah, beef cattle; Edd Evans, Somerville, swine James Hunter, Whitevill seed identification; Frederic Williams, Chattanooga, raft cutting; Paul Tipton, White ville, step cutting.

Late S. B. Simmons Honored As NFA Camp Is Dedicated

GREENSBORO, N. C.—Leaders in education, business and government, last Friday (June 20) to honor the late S. B. Simmons assistant State supervisor of Vocational Agriculture as the New Farmers of America Camp was dedicated and named in his honor.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Dr. E. M. Norris, Prairie View, Texas, national executive secretary of the NFA, and a close friend of Simmons.

Speaking from the subject, "Life More Abundant-A Vocatonal Challenge", the former pupil of the deceased honoree, paid high tribute to the man who later came to North Carolina to develop a strong program in Vocational Agriculture among the Negro youth in high schools of the state.

He traced the progress of Vo-Ag training to Negro youth through the Machine, Power and now the Atomic ages and said that "We to the full world not be reached until the end of our vocational striving."

MAKE EFFICIENT FARMER

He told the audience which overfilled the recreation hall and several hundred who heard over loudspeakers on the outside that training in the skills of agriculture is not enough to make the full farmer. He warned, "In Vocational Agriculture, it must ever be our dual concern to make of men farmers who are efficient and proficients, in the art of production and management and to make of farmers men who are noble, true and happy in the art of living with themselves and others."

"Too long," he said "we have preached produce, produce, produce with greater efficiency and too seldom have we injected live, live, and live in this outlook series for life abundant."

Following an introduction by Dr G. F. Rankin, dean of the School of Agriculture at A&T College Douglass Miller, Kings Mountain, president of the North Carolina Association of NFA, unveiled a protrait of Simmons, a gift of the organization, which will be hung in a prominent spot at the $100,000 camp facility located on the Inland Waterway at Hammocks Beach near here. The painting was executed by Preston Haygood, Greensboro artist.

Rev. Cleo M. McCoy, director of religious activities at A&T College conducted the dedication ritual.

MANY BRING GREETINGS

Greetings were presented by: Dr S. E. Duncan, Raleigh, State supervisor of Negro high school; Dr Warmoth T. Gibbs, president of A&T College; A. G. Bullard, Raleigh, State supervisor of Vo-Ag; J. R. Larkins, Raleigh; Mrs. Lucy F. James, Durham, Vocational Home Economics; Carl V. Venters Jacksonville, representative from Onslow County to the General Assembly and chairman of the State Advisory Budget Commission; Dr J. W. Seabrook, Fayetteville, officer in the Hammocks Beach Corporation; J. H. Wheeler, Durham banker, and The Right Rev. Herbert Bell Shaw, Wilmington, bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

The camp, constructed by funds raised in a campaign spearheaded by Simmons, was accepted by J. L. Faulcon, Ahoskie, president of the North Carolina Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

Among the permanent facilities already completed at the Camp are: an assembly hall, including offices, dining room, kitchen, lodging space for camp officials and guests; bath houses for girls and boys, eight cabins, accomodating 20 campers each, a pavilion, boats and courts for tennis, basketball and volleyball.

State Champions Named At New Farmers' Meeting

GREENSBORO, N. C. — A Gaston County youth will head the North Carolina Association of New Farmers of America. Douglas Miller, Kings Mountain, RFD, was elected president of the organization at the 30th annual convention conducted last week at A. and T. College.

Other new officers elected at the Friday closing session included: James Feaster, Greensboro, first vice president; Joseph Mitchell, Shallotte, second vice; James Wray, Wake Forest, third vice; Bobby Spencer, Henderson, secretary; Harold Hill, treasurer and Winser Alexander, reporter, both of Columbia.

THE STATE NFA group was presented a certificate of appreciation from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis by Charles H. Bynum director of Interracial Activities, who delivered the main address.

Bynum cited Robert Cameron, the African medical missionary who sought ways of immunizing people, temporarily, against disease; Charles Drew, who developed the blood banking system and Jonas Salk, who perfected the polio vaccine, as great contributors to worldwide good health.

STATE CHAMPIONS IN contests conducted throughout the year were presented prizes on Friday. Among the winners were: Corn contest—Charles Anderson; Louisburg; Irie Parker, Battleboro and John Moore, Edenton. Sweet potatoes—John Sutton, LaGrange; Cordis Smith, Southport and Bobby Galloway, Southport. Supervised farming—Willie Lucas, Elm City and Gilbert Hawkins, Henderson. A team from the Clear Run High School at Garland took first honors in the livestock judging contest.

Winners in other contests conducted on Wednesday included in order of placement: Public speaking—Gerald Clay, Robersonville; Alford Johnson, Carthage and Geoffrey Scott, Greensboro. Quartet—Lincoln Heights School, Laurinburg; Dudley High, Greensboro and Savannah High, Grifton. Talent—Bobby Graham, Wilkesboro; Merrill Flood, Winton and Stanley Grady, Mount Olive.

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The convention was conducted under the supervision of W. T. Johnson, Sr., assistant State supervisor of Vocational Agriculture and adviser to the group.

Elected Officers Of The NFA

These boys were elected last week at the annual convention of the North Carolina Association of New Farmers of America at A. and T. College to guide the organization during the coming year. They are, from left to right, front row: Douglas Miller, Kings Mountain, president; Bobby Spencer, Henderson, secretary, and James Feaster, Greensboro, first vice-president. Those standing are: J. W. Warren, assistant State supervisor of Vocational Agriculture; Joseph Mitchell, Shallotte, second vice president; James Wray, Wake Forest, third vice president; Harold Hill, Columbia, treasurer and Winser Alexander, Columbia, reporter.

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New Farmers Of America To Hold 24th Annual Meet Here

Dr. F. D. Patterson, Dr. J. F. Drake Among Speakers To Address Meet At City Auditorium

Outstanding educators and farm experts will convene in Atlanta, Oct. 1, along with 1,200 delegates and advisors for the 24th National Convention of the New Farmers of America, which will be held in Taft Hall, Municipal Auditorium.

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president, Phelps-Stokes Fund, New York City, and Dr. J. F. Drake, president, Alabama A&M College, Normal, Ala., will keynote the meeting which will run through Oct. 3.

Other headline speakers scheduled for the 4-day session include Mr. Joseph B. Martin of Nitrogen Division, Allied Chemical Corporation of New York City, representing the FFA Foundation Donors, Howard Downing of Nicholasville, Ky., National NFA President; Mr. R. L. Cousins, Director, Southern Educational Foundation, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Harry V. Richardson, President, Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga.

Business of the convention is conducted by the seven national NFA officers and the "official delegates." There are 50 delegates from the 15 states represented at the convention. Delegates serve on various committees, take part in floor discussions, and vote on business matters. John Knox, Jr., Eutaw, Ala., will wield the gavel as national NFA President. The other national officers who will assist him are Vernell White, Lancaster, S. C., student secretary; and the three vice presidents, Waverly T. Jones, Jr., Waverly, Va.; Clifford Jay, Jr., Osierfield, Ga.; Eugene T. Martin, Calhoun, La.

Most of the convention's first day will be spent in registration and tours of the Atlanta area. Finals in the National NFA Public Speaking contest will be held that evening, along with performances by the national NFA chorus.

Tuesday, September 30, is the convention's "big day." Seating of official delegates starts the business session, followed by Mr. R. L. Cousin's welcoming address.

Dr. J. F. Drake will address the group about 9 a. m., Wednesday morning. Other features of that session will include presentation of the Superior Degree to 21 outstanding NFA members and honorary degrees to about 20 adults who have given unusual service to the organization.

The Wednesday evening program features presentation of the Star Superior Farmer awards. The Star Superior Farmer of America will receive an award of $500.00 and two regional Star Farmers will be awarded $250.00 each. The awards are given for outstanding achievement in farming and leadership.

Following the Star Farmer pageantry, Mr. Joseph B. Martin of Nitrogen Division, Allied Chemical Corporation, New York City, will extend brief greetings to representatives of donors to the Foundation who will be introduced and seated on the stage while regional and national awards are presented to boys for outstanding achievement in Dairy Farming, Soil and Water Management, Farm Mech., Farm Electrification, and Farm and Home Improvement. Several selections by the National NFA chorus will conclude the evening.

While official delegates are working in committee sessions Thursday afternoon, most of the NFA members will board special busses provided by International Harvester Company for the Southeastern Fair in Atlanta. They return to the Municipal Auditorium in the evening for a program featuring their amateur program and social for NFA members.

The final session of the Convention will be conducted Friday morning featuring the National Talent Contest and the presentation of the FFA Foundation Awards by the National NFA officers.

WEDNESDAY

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

DAILY ACTIVITY SHEET

Issued Through Division of Public Relations

Wednesday, April 23, 1958

VOLUME IV NO. 111

NEW FARMERS OF AMERICA

We welcome to the campus the Annual State Convention of The New Farmers of America who are meeting here now. Daily Activity Sheet Wed. 4-23-58 Tuskegee Institute Ala.

Farm boys studying vocational agriculture in the public schools throughout the United States comprise this national organization, which had its beginning in Virgini in May, 1927.

The New Farmers of America is an organization which seeks to develop its members in their vocational, social and recreational life through local chapters established where vocational agriculture is taught. Its members have an opportunity to develop a type of leadership essential for the modern successful farmer.

Seventeen state associations comprise the National Organization. Mr. Arthur Floyd is State Adviser to the group. Dr. F. T. McQueen is Teacher-Trainer, and Mr. E. L. Donald is Assistant Teacher-Trainer.

DEDICATION

THE S.B. SIMMONS CAMP

NEW FARMERS OF AMERICA, HAMMOCKS BEACH
SWANSBORO,N.C. JUNE 20,1958
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH-SIDNEY BRITTON SIMMONS 1894-1957 Born in Mecklenburg County,N.C. Educ. In Fayetteville and at Lincoln Academy,Kings Mountain, N.C. (Fayetteville State Normal School (now) Fayetteville State Teachers College. Degree in Agricultural Education, A & T College, Univ . of Ill., and did further study at the Univ., of California,Kansas State College and Colorado State College.
BRIEF HISTORY OF CAMP. The history of NFA camping in North Carolina dates back to 1926-27 when the Assn., was formed. The first camp (really a weekend outing for about 35 boys) was held at the Pitt Cointy Training School at Grimesland under the leadership of the S.B.Simmons, State Advisor in 1927.
1932,the NFA held its first full-fledged State Camp at Kittrell College in Vance Co. A.H. Peeler Principal of Price High School Greeensboro was a director of t his pioneering effort.

1949 Dr. William Sharpe,New York City deeded 4,500 acres of land on Queen's Creek in Onslow County, to the Hammocks Beach Corporation. This corporation represents the North Carolina Teachers Assn. their families, and other educational groups including the NFA. 1953 NFA made application for a 50 year lease on 27acres. (Dr. Harold L. Noakes, Cornell Univ.,along with a number of teachers of Voc.Ag.,helped to select the site. He followed up with a Camping Workshop for 115 Voc.Ag.teachers. This workshop has been beneficial,since it provided a large number of teachers who would serve as counselors,with practical experience in campin.
1957,the camping program was xpanded by the e,ployment of J.H. Twitty,Principal Chavis High Sch. J.H. Lanier,Prin.Sedalia High Sch.,and James Carter,Director of Athletics,Graham High Sch., who worked as a team directing educational and recreational program. Teachers served as Counselors. In addition two cooks were employed. The NFA members are very grateful to peopleof all walks of life for the aid given to make these facilities available for them, other youth andthe future youth of the state.
Training in-Electricity - forestry- Camp Planning

. . . . Copied from program

Youthful Farmers in North Carolina Elect Officers, Select State Champions

NEW NFA OFFICERS—Newly elected officers of the North Carolina Association of New Farmers of America are (front row, left to right) Douglas Miller, president; Bobby Spencer, secretary, and James Feaster, first vice president. Standing: Joseph Mitchell, second vice president; James Wray, third vice president; Harold Hill, treasurer, and Winser Alexander, reporter.

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Supervised farming — Willie Lucas, Elm City and Gilbert Hawkins, Henderson.

A team from the Clear Run High School at Garland took first honors in the livestock judging contest.

THE CONVENTION honored six prominent educators with the Honorary Modern Farmer degree and 72 of its own members with the Modern Farmer degree.

Winners in other contests included in order of placement:

Public speaking—Gerald Clay, Robersonville; Alford Johnson, Carthage and Geoffrey Scott, Greensboro.

Quartet — Lincoln Heights School, Laurinburg; Dudley High, Greensboro and Savannah High, Grifton.

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The delegates were greeted by Waverly T. Jones, Waverly, Va., national first vice president of New Farmers of America and Lula Mae Goolsby, Mocksville, N.C., national president of the New Homemakers of America.

The convention was conducted under the supervision of W. T. Johnson Sr., assistant state supervisor of vocational agriculture and adviser to the group.

Camp S. B. Simmons To Hold Dedication Program

SWANSBORO, N. C. —The dedication program of S. B. Simmons Camp operated by the New Farmers of America and located on Hammocks Beach is to be held on Friday morning, June 20.

Dr. E. N. Norris, national executive secretary, New Farmers of America, and teacher trainer, Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical college, Prairie View, Tex., is to be the principal speaker.

THE NFA camp was named in honor of the late S. B. Simmons, founder of the outing area, who died in 1957.

Presiding during the services will be W. T. Johnson, executive secretary, North Carolina Association, New Farmers of America.

Words of greeting are to be given by Dr. S. E. Duncan, supervisor, North Carolina high schools; A. G. Bullard, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture; C. J. Barber, principal, Washington high school, Clarkton, N. C.; J. R. Larkins consultant, State Department of Welfare; Carl V. Venters, chairman of the State Advisory Budget Commission and Representative of Onslow County; Dr. J. W. Seabrook, president - emeritus, Fayetteville State Teachers college; J. H. Wheeler, president, Mechanics and Farmers Banks; and Bishop Herbert B. Shaw, AME church.

THE DEDICATION ritual is to be led by the Rev. C. M. McCoy, director, religious activities, A. and T. college, Greensboro, N. C.

Camp Simmons numbers among its permanent buildings an assembly hall, a bath house for girls and a bath house for boys, eight cabins which will accommodate 20 persons each, and a pavillion.

It is situated on a 27-acre site which overlooks Hammocks Beach.

Homemakers elect officers

RALEIGH, N.C. — Some 2,000 members of the North Carolina chapters of the New Homemakers of America met at Memorial Auditorium here last week, elected officers for 1958, and cited two college newsmen, Ellis E. Corbett, A. and T. College, Greensboro, and Charles A. Ray, N.C. College, Durham.

The college newsmen have been active in interpreting the NHA program at their respective institutions.

MRS. MARIE C. MOFFITT, state adviser, supervised the session that also marked the awarding of advanced degrees to these eight students: Unity High School, Statesville: Mamie Odena Allison, Virginia Dare Gamble, and Peggy Parks; Douglas High School, Leaksville: Marilyn Maxine Allen, Barbara Joann Broadnax, Julia Faye Moyer, Naomi Jean Johnson and Gloria Boyd.

Incoming officers and their advisers are:

President, Dollye Kendell, Albemarle and Mrs. Ruth McLendon; vice presidents Frances Browne, Mrs. Lillian Ward; secretary, Glenda Clarke, Mrs. Alberta Forte; treasurer, Linda Cameron, Miss M. Ruth Leary; Reporter, Shirley McLeod, Miss Catherine Raspberry; parliamentarian, Barbara McNeill, Mrs. Connie K. Spicer; historian, Marcel Forbes, Mrs. Lillian A. Woodhouse; song leader, Bettye McCombs, Mrs. Beatrice M. Smith.

Homemaker Demonstration Attracts Wide Interest

The Ellen B. Trenholm Chapter of New Homemakers of America, in its recent observance of the annual National NHA Week, conducted a series of educational demonstrations.

The New Homemakers of America is an organization of pupils taking homemaking in junior and senior high school. It stems from the vocational education program.

Vocational homemaking education is that phase of the educational program which is an integral part of the homemaking educational program, having as its purposes, to help prepare pupils and adult homemakers for the vocation of homemaking, the vocation most girls enter, either on full-time or part-time basis, and through the chapter, state and national organization members are prepared for participation in home community, state and national affairs.

The homemaking program in Alabama consists of planned experience attained through the areas of class, home and the Alabama Assn. of the New Homemakers of America.

The Ellen B. Trenholm Chapter in every activity has four purposes: to promote individual growth by developing physical, social, and moral qualities; to provide wholesome recreational activities; to promote better home living and to act as a unit for giving service to the school, community, state and nation, which are symbolized on our emblem.

The emblem of the New Homemakers of America consists of a shield upholding a scroll on which the name of the organization is inscribed. The symbols include: fireplace or hearth, representing the home and symbolizing the responsibility of its members to their homes and families; and serving as a reminder of one of the major purposes of the organization; (2) the clasped hands symbolize social relationship through which are gained the qualities which make for leadership, a sense of integrity, cooperation, fellowship, and a better understanding of problems of the group; (3) the play equipment is symbolic of the wholesome recreational activities which an organization of this type provide. This includes, in addition to physical development, social development and creative activities; (4) the horn of plenty stands for achievements which through the program of the New Homemakers of America are bountiful.

This horn of plenty also expresses prosperity, gained through the planting of educational experiences resulting in a harvest of happy wholesome citizens. Letitia Holloway, reporter, Mrs. E. M. Alexander advisor and Prof. W. A. Coston is principal.

HEAD NATIONAL NEW HOMEMAKERS—Elected as officers to guide the New Homemakers of America at the annual national convention held last week at A&T College were from left to right: (seated) Olivia Ann Gifford, Dublin, Ga., secretary; Martha Harris, McAlester, Okla., president and Jerine Mercer, Fredericksburg, Va., treasurer. The vice presidents on the back row are: Bettie Jones, Oxford, Miss.; Betty Jean Betts, Charleston, Mo., and Janice Grinnage Middletown, Delaware.

Atlanta Site Of 24th Meeting

ATLANTA, Ga. — A signal honor came to Florida when the judging team representing the Florida Association, New Farmers of America, captured first place in the judging competition at the 24th National NFA Convention in Atlanta, Ga.

A total of $315 in cash awards was presented to the members of this team which was composed of Edward Duggs, Webster NFA Chapter; Clarence Ivey, Belleview-Santos Chapter; and Robert Herring and Leandre Jackson of the Live Oak Chapter. The coaches were Carl S. Williams, Webster Chapter, and I. F. Mitchell, of the Live Oak Chapter.

In addition to being members of the winning team, Edward Duggs was the second high point individual and received an award of $35 and Clarence Ivey placed third and received a cash award of $30.

In addition to the judging honor, Florida was also outstanding in several other areas. Woodrow Presha, Quincy "B" Chapter, won the H. O. Sargent Sectional Award in farm mechanics for which he received a check of $100.00 from the Future Farmers of America Foundation.

Solomon Sanders of the same chapter won the H. O. Sargent Sectional Award in Farm and Home Improvement and received a check for $100.00 from the Future Farmers of America Foundation.

Earl Williams and Joseph Boule of Quincy "B" Chapter and Frank Thompkins of the Madison Chapter received the Superior Farmer Degree and a check for $100.00 each.

Two adults — E. R. Scott, vocational agricultural instructor, Madison NFA Chapter, and F. W. Johnson, former vocational agricultural teacher, Plant City, received the Honorary Superior Farmer Degree.

Herbert Silas, talent contestant of the Palmetto "A" Chapter, placed second in the national talent contest and received a cash award of $50.00 from the National NFA Organization.

A total of $850 was received by the various participants representing Florida.

The official delegates representing the Florida Association at the National NFA Convention were: James Griffin, state president, Lakeland Chapter; Kenneth Falana, 1st vice president, Fessenden Chapter; Rubin J. Nattiel, state star modern farmer, Gainesville "A" Chapter; and Herbert Silas, Palmetto "A" Chapter, national talent contestant. Moses Williams of Gainesville "A" Chapter attended as an alternate delegate.

Adults representing Florida included G. W. Conoly, national NFA adviser, Florida A and M; L. A. Marshall, state adviser, NFA, Florida A and M; C. C. Cunningham, adult secretary, Florida Association, NFA; G. C. Norman, program specialist, state department of education; and M. T. Tucker, teacher of vocational agriculture, Carter - Parramore High School, Quincy, Florida.

New Site Honors S. Simmons

Journal-Guide
Norfolk Va.
Sat. 7-3-58

State, National Officials Take Part In Program

GREENSBORO, N. C. — Leaders in education, business and government, met June 20 to honor the late S. B. Simmons, assistant State supervisor of Vocational Agriculture as the New Farmers of America Camp was dedicated and named in his honor.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Dr. E. M. Norris, Prairie View, Texas, national executive secretary of the NFA, and a close friend of Simmons.

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SPEAKING FROM the subject, "Life More Abundant-A Vocational Challenge", the former pupil of the deceased honoree, paid high tribute to the man who later came to North Carolina to develop a strong program of Vocational Agriculture among the Negro youth in high schools of the State.

He traced the progress of Vo-Ag training to Negro youth through the machine, power and now, the atomic ages and said that "life to the full would not be reached until the end of our vocational striving."

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HE TOLD THE audience which overfilled the recreation hall and several hundred who heard over loudspeakers on the outside that training in the skills of agriculture is not enough to make the full farmer. He warned, "In Vocational Agriculture, it must ever be our dual concern to make of men farmers who are efficient and proficient, in the art of production, and management and to make of farmers men who are noble, true and happy in the art of living with themselves and others."

"Too long", he said "we have preached produce, produce, produce with greater efficiency and too seldom have we injected live, live, and live in this outlook series for life abundant."

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FOLLOWING AN introduction by Dr. G. F. Rankin, dean of the School of Agriculture at A. and T. College, Douglas Miller, Kings Mountain, president of the North Carolina Association of NFA, unveiled a portrait of Mr. Simmons, a gift of the organization, which will be hung in a prominent spot at the $100,000 camp facility located on the Inland Waterway at Hammocks Beach, near here. The painting was executed by Preston Haygood, Greensboro artist.

Rev. Cleo M. McCoy, director of religious activities at A. and T. College, conducted the dedication ritual.

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GREETINGS WERE presented by: Dr. S. E. Duncan, Raleigh, State supervisor of Negro high schools; Dr. Warmoth T. Gibbs, president of A. and T. College; A. G. Bullard, Raleigh, State supervisor of Vo-Ag; J. R. Larkins, Raleigh; Mrs. Lucy F. James, Durham, Vocational Home Economics; Carl V. Venters, Jacksonville, representative from Onslow County to the General Assembly and chairman of the State Advisory Budget Commission.

Also Dr. J. W. Seabrook, Fayetteville, officer in the Hammocks Beach Corporation; J. H. Wheeler, Durham banker, and the Rt. Rev. Herbert Bell Shaw. Wilmington, bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

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THE CAMP, constructed by funds raised in a campaign spearheaded by Simmons, was accepted by J. L. Faulcon, Ahoskie, president of the North Carolina Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

Among the permanent facilities already completed at the Camp are: an assembly hall, including offices, dining room, kitchen, lodging space for camp officials and guests; bath houses for girls and boys, eight cabins, accommodating 20 campers each, a pavillion, boats and courts for tennis, basketball and volleyball.

Admire Portrait Of Relative

Mrs. Julia A. Simmons, mother, Fayetteville, and the wife, Mrs. Naomi H. Simmons, Greensboro, examine the portrait of the late S. B. Simmons to hang at the New Farmers of America Camp, named in the latter's honor at the dedication held at the site last Friday. The portrait was executed by Preston Haygood. a Greensboro artist.

Principals In Camp Dedication

Dr. E. M. Norris, right, Prairie View, Texas, national executive secretary of the New Farmers of America, delivered the main address at the dedication of the S. B. Simmons NFA Camp last week. He takes a cooling drink with Dr. G. F. Rankin, left, acting dean, School of Agriculture at A. and T. College and W. T. Johnson Sr., assistant State supervisor of Vocational Agriculture.

NEGRO SPECIALIST REVEALS NEW MILK PROCESS

Raleigh, N. C. (ANP) — A Negro dairy specialist recently suggested that if some of North Carolina's tobacco farmers are wise they'll use some of their 1958 tobacco money to buy a family milk cow.

R. L. Wynn said the family milk cow is particularly rare in Eastern North Carolina, where less than 50 per cent of the farmers don't own a cow. Wynn says there are many good reasons why they should. "Farmers that have cows finds the sailing much smoother throughout the year than these that are without them," he declares. Here are some of the benefits Wynn says a good milk cow brings to a farm home:

"She produces family food at low cost—necessary proteins, vitamins and minerals are provided cheaply and in large amounts. She supplies high quality foods— a quart of milk contains 100 per cent of your daily needs of calcium, 82 per cent of your riboflavin (the 'keep young' vitamin), 67 per cent of your phosphorous, 49 per cent of your proteins, 30 per cent of your vitamin A and 22 per cent of your thiamine.

"A milk cow is also a source of cash income where farmers provide themselves with a market. She serves as an excellent source of income and also enables us to more efficinetly utilize our farm land and labor. The dairy cow encourages the use of improved farm practices and serves as a source of security, wherever she is kept and well cared for. Many farmers have found the old cow the only available collatoral to use as a mortgage for emergency cash. Because of such security to call upon, rural people that would have otherwise had to do without, have found medical care, hospitalization, and a means of keeping their children in school and college.

"If you are interested in a good milk cow, see your county farm agent."

Courier Pittsburgh Pa Sat. 2-15-58

Pig Parlor—Asker Marshbern, right, a Nashville (N. C.) tobacco sharecropper who has started raising hogs to increase his income, shows two North Carolina extension service workers 24 hogs he is finishing for market. The animals are in a pig parlor Mr. Marshbern made himself. It has a concrete floor and is equipped with a self-feeder and self-waterer. Extension workers are County Agent William F. Wright and State Agent R. E. Jones, center.—USDA Photo.

Cropper Doubles Income With Pigs

Defender Chicago Ill. Sat. 2-15-58

WASHINGTON — An 18-acre sharecropper has just about doubled his income by raising quality hogs in addition to tobacco, reports State Agent R. E. Jones of the North Carolina Extension Service.

The farmer is Asker Marshbern of Nashville, N. C., who started share-cropping cotton and tobacco in 1922, but never began getting ahead until a few years ago when he raised his first litter of pigs for market.

Last year he sold more than 40 head, and if all goes well this year, he says he expects to market 80 porkers from his six Tamworth and Yorkshire sows.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshbern have dropped cotton altogether and are now counting mainly on four acres of tobacco and all the hogs they can grow feed for. Through a feeding program which their county agent, William F. Wright, has helped them to develop, the Marshberns, put from 200 to 225 pounds on their hogs in five months.

KEPT CLEANER

"We keep them on pastures of fescue and ladino clover for about two months," said Marshbern, "then we put them in the pig parlor for finishing off during the next three months. There they are kept cleaner, and with the feed and water handy, they put on weight faster."

The 0 by 20-foot parlor has a concrete floor, a sloping tin roof on eight-foot supports, and fenced-in sides three feet high. It is equipped with a self-feeder and a self waterer fed by a deepwell. Marshbern estimates that the parlor cost him about $200, plus the feeder and waterer.

With their modern facilities and improved practices, the Marshberns have set an example in swine production for most of their neighbors. The have been leaders in shifting to meat-type hogs, developing improved pastures, using electric fencing, and in constructing a pig parlor.

These are practices County Agent Wright has been pushing. And farmers from miles around come to see them demonstrated on the Marshbern farm.

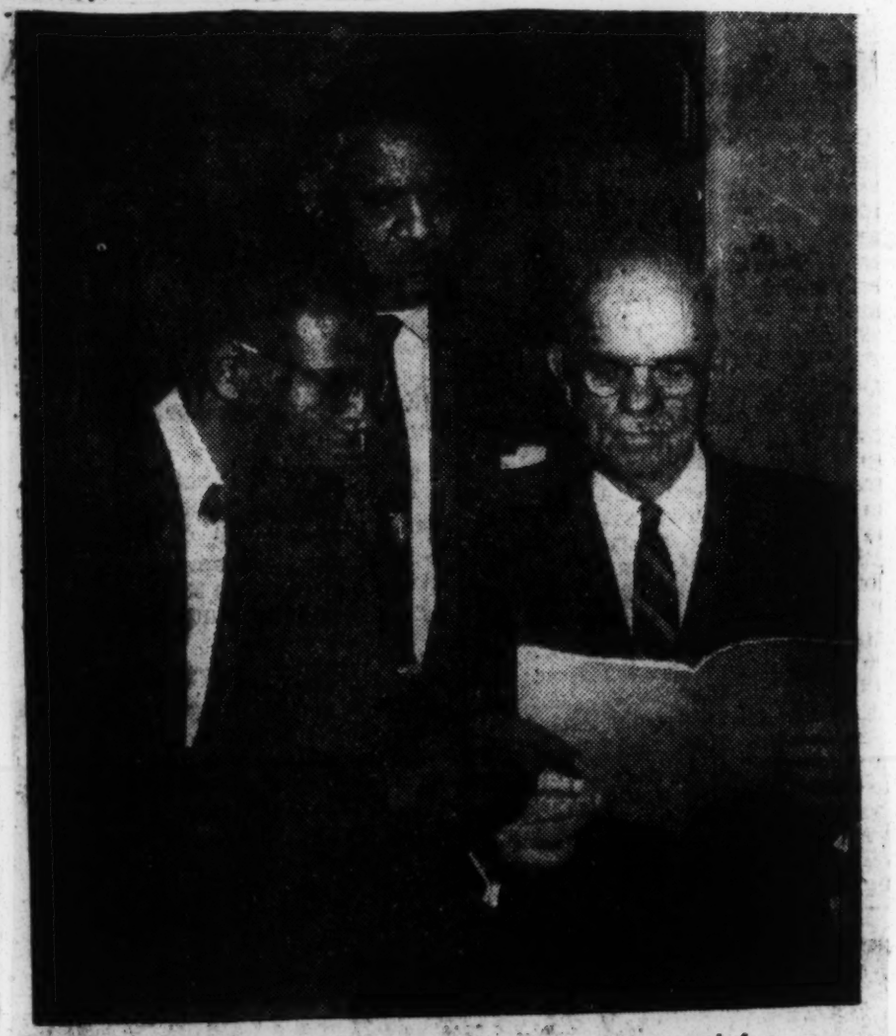
THREE-YEAR CHANGE

Three years ago only 10 of the 2,500 colored farmers in Nash County were raising hogs in any quantity for market. Last year more than 50 sold from 20 to 100 head. Twelve farmers marketed a total of $9,000 worth of hogs.

While Mr. and Mrs. Marshbern sharecrop their four acres of tobacco, giving the landlord half of the crop as rent, they keep all they make on the hogs, says Jones.

Now for the first time they think they will be able to see their way clean in a year or two to buy a piece of land of their own.

They may not live on it right away, Mr. Marshbern points out, because the rental arrangements with their landlord are highly satisfactory.



KEYNOTE AGRICULTURAL MEET—James W. Warren, left, area supervisor for Vocational Agriculture in North Carolina, chats with keynoters participating in the annual Interregional Conference for Supervisors and Teacher Trainers in Agricultural Education held last week at A&T College. They are: L. J. Washington, Agriculturalist, Farmers Home Administration, Washington, D. C., and J. Warren Smith, State Supervisor of Vocational Education for North Carolina.

Courier Pittsburgh Pa Sat. 2-15-58

WOMEN IN NORTH CAROLINA DAIRY INDUSTRY—When the dairy farmers of North Carolina attended the 10th annual Production Short Course at A&T College last week, there were at least two ladies in the group. Among them were: Mrs. J. O. Blank, left, Clarkton and Mrs. Louise Simmons, Rowan County. They get additional information from Dr. W. L. Kennedy, chairman, Department of Animal Industries at the college.

Negro Farm Meeting Set

GREENSBORO — Eight hundred to one thousand Negro farmers are expected to attend the 10th annual Educational Meeting of the North Carolina Farm Bureau on Friday, March 14, at 10 a.m. in the Richard B. Harrison Auditorium of A&T College at Greensboro, according to A. W. Solomon, Farm Bureau representative.

The session will be opened by A&T President Dr. W. T. Gibbs who will welcome the group to Greensboro for their meeting, held each year to bring Negro Farm Bureau members up to date on farm developments, legislation, and activities of the organization.

Mrs. John B. Chase, chairman of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Women's Committee, and Woodrow Luttrell, American Farm Bureau field man for the Southern Region, will appear on the morning program along with R. E. Jones, state extension agent.

Mrs. Chase will discuss the role of the family in farm organization, and Luttrell will point out the features of the organization which make it a "clearing house for developing farm policy from the community through county, state and national levels." Jones will discuss "Agriculture as a basic industry," and the future of farming in North Carolina.

After a lunch break, the group will reconvene for reports from Federation President Randolph Eagles of Macclesfield; Will H. Rogers, secretary; and A. C. Edwards, executive vice president. Chairman of the State Negro Steering Committee will also be elected during the afternoon.

A summary of the day's discussions and program recommendations and goals for 1958 will be presented by A. W. Solomon.

Delegates to the meeting will be entertained during the day by the A&T College Choir under the direction of H. T. Pearsall.

Duplin Named N. C. "County Of Year" In Progress Campaign

GREENSBORO, N. C. — Duplin County was named the winner of the "County of the Year" Award for rural progress in the State during 1957. The announcement was made by Dr. C. F. Rankin, chairman of the State Rural Progress Campaign with special reference to Negroes and acting dean of the School of Agriculture at A & T College sponsor of the movement.

The award, $500 in cash, is given annually to the county in which the Negro rural population has contributed the most impressive gains to the overall development of the county. The cash prize is being given by Thomas A. Morgan, New York City, former native and farm operator in Vance County and who recently retired as chairman of the executive board of the Sperry Cyroscope Company in New York.

Duplin County won out over five-other finalist counties, including: Anson, Richmond, Robeson Harnett and Rockingham. Atotal of 71-counties competed in the original eliminations. The evaluation committee, headed by Dr Rankin, visited each of the six-finalist counties last week and arrived at the decision on the basis of statistical reports and on-the-spot observations.

IMPRESSIVE GAINS

The winning county, one of the largest in the State by land area, in the unanimous opinion of the committee, "had demonstrated the most impressive gains, during the past year in agricultual production and marketing, improved homemaking and family living, community improvement and development, provision for opportunities for rural youth and co-operation of all agencies, organizations and institutions, all on the highest plane of interracial co-operation and understanding."

The announcement paid special recognition to the outstanding gains made by Duplin farmers in expansion of livestock, poultry and offset serious reductions in farm income resulting from recent and drastic setbacks in tobacco allotments.

The award is to be presented at a public meeting to be held in that county in late February or early March.

Those composing the State committee, in addition to Dr. Rankin are: R. E. Jones, State agent, in charge of the A&T College Extension Service; W. T. Johnson, assistant State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture; Dr. J. E. Jeffries, tobacco marketing specialist, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Mrs. M. M. Brown, assistant State home agent; E. V. Corbett, director of public relations all of A&T College, Greensboro; A. W. Solomon, field representative, N. C. Farm Bureau, Greensboro; Mrs. Lucy F. James and Mrs. Marie L. Moffitt, both, State supervisors of Vocational Home Economics, Durham; Mrs. Ruth Lawrence Woodson, supervisor of Negro elementary schools; Dr. S. S. Duncan, State supervisor of Negro high schools; Dr. John R. Larkins, consultant on Negro Affairs, State Board of Public Welfare and Mrs. Edna Garrett Trotter, supervisor of State School Lunch Program, all of Raleigh.

Farm Without Milk Cow Not In Style Says "AG" Expert

GREENSBORO, N. C.—A farm without a milk cow will be "out of style" by the end of the year. This is the firm conviction of R. L. Wynn, dairy specialist with the A and T College Extension Service.

He made the broad conclusion in a special paper released last week which described the family milk cow as an ideal source of farm food, finance and security.

"About the surest way", he said, "for the farm family to get its adequate supply of milk as a food is by having a milker of its own." He explained that milk in the diet is still considered important to both youngsters and adults, and the ownership of a milk cow could save as much as $200 per year in milk costs to the average family consuming its proper share of milk, whole or processed.

Referring specially to the agricultural situation in North Carolina he said that the family cow can be a source of added income. He said that with continued reduction in income through reduced crop acreages and expanding manufacturing milk markets, the farmer now can sell, at a profit, all of the surplus milk which he has. He added that resulting idle acres can now be used profitably for pasture.

Wynn also gave sound advice on selection and care of the animal. He suggests that interested farmers contact their county agents who will assist him in locating the cow best suitable for the family and will also advise on care and other particulars.

Ham And Egg Show In Salem

Agent Tells Farmers They Need Education, Research

SELMA, N. C. — John E. Piland, Extension Service Eastern District farm agent, told a crowd attending the 11th Annual Ham and Egg Show that research and education are the two "boot straps" farmers need to lift themselves. The show was held at Richard B. Harrison school here.

Speaking on "Wanted —Two Boot Straps", Mr. Piland said U. S. farmers comprise less than one percent of the world's population. He added that through research and education farmers in this country are now producing 41 per cent of the world's red meat, 46 per cent of the world's milk, and 51 per cent of the world's eggs.

MR. PILAND called on Johnston county to prepare great minds to use the boot straps of research and education for better farms and larger yields on farms in the county.

Turning to agriculture in Johnston county, the speaker asserted that it has been estimated that the county suffered a loss of $6,852,819 in crop income from the previous year.

HE ADDED that there was a brighter side to the picture. It has also been estimated, he said, that the county last year showed a gain over the previous year of $481,950 in hogs, $68,402 in meat and cattle sales and $231,000 in poultry and eggs.

Mrs. Esther Mitchener of Route 1, Smithfield, got $40 a dozen for her grand champion eggs. There were winners in several other classes.

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A TOTAL of 87 dozen eggs were on exhibit at the show. Ten dozen eggs were sold. Total recipts for eggs were $205, and the average price per dozen was $20.50.

The Rev. J. T. Hocutt, Route 1, Middlesex, received $20 a pound for the 13 pound grand champion ham, or $260.

Two hundred and eleven hams weighing 3,091.5 pounds were on exhibit. The average weight per ham was 14,7 pounds. Sixty six hams were sold weighing a total of 928 pounds. Money received for the hams was $2,619.02, or an average of $2.82 pound.

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L. R. JOHNSON, county agent who inaugurated the annual ham-egg event, presided. The invocation was by the Rev. G. F. Wiggins, pastor of First Baptist Churches of Clayton and Selma. The group was welcomed by M. L. Wilson, principal of Richard B. Harrison school.

Greetings were brought by H. M. Johnson, chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, and Dr. E. N. Booker, mayor pro-tem of Selma. Among those making brief remarks were J. Noah Williams, director of the show and sale; R. E. Jones of Greensboro, Extension Service state farm agent; and N. L. Perkins. Guests were recognized by County Agent C. W. Talrton.

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C. HAROLD Creech, manager of the Smithfield Chamber of Commerce, presented handsome trophies to the exhibitors of the Grand Champion ham and dozen of eggs. Mrs. Lucy O. Tole, county home agent, awarded rosettes to the exhibitors of the Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Champion and Reserve Champion, hams and eggs.

Recieing these awards were: Ham division — Grand Champion, the Rev. J. T. Hocutt of Route 1, Middlesex; Reserve Grand Champion, David Merritt of Route 1, Wendell; Champion, David Richardson of Route 1 Wendell; and Rseerve Champion, Columbus Richardon of Route 1 Wednell.

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EG DIVISION — Grand Champion, Mrs. Esther Mitchener of Route 1, Smithfield; reserve Grand Champion, Mrs. Della Archible of Route 1, Smithfield; Champion, Mrs. Vera Atkinson of Route 1, Four Oaks; and Reserve Champion, Mrs. Flora Revell of Route 2, Selma.

The banquet, sponsored by Carolina Packers, Inc., and Smithfield Hog Market, Inc. honored the show's ham and egg exhibitors.

E. L. Woodall of Smithfield was in charge of serving the meal.

Soil Bank Fund Hike Okaved

$175 Millions Recommended for Hay Farmers

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (AP)—The House appropriations committee recommended Thursday that Congress add 175 million dollars to the 500 million already authorized to hay farmers for taking land out of surplus production.

Under the acreage reserve section of the soil bank program, the agriculture department pays farmers for underplanting allotments of cotton, wheat, corn, rice and tobacco acreages.

Congress last year set a ceiling of half a billion dollars for such payments on 1958 crops. But by Feb. 7, farmers had filed applications to retire nearly 16 million acres for payments that would total nearly 650 million dollars.

No Official Stand

This oversubscription meant that some farmers who wanted to get into the program could not do so unless Congress made more money available.

The agriculture department has taken no position on congressional proposals to increase the acreage reserve fund.

Secretary Benson said at a recent news conference that the administration had asked for more than the half billion dollars when the matter came up before appropriations committee a year ago, but that Congress had cut the request.

Greater Than Expected

Interest in retiring land under the acreage reserve is much greater than the administration had expected. In his budget report to Congress in January, President Eisenhower recommended that the acreage reserve be dropped next year because of what he said was lack of farmer interest.

The department also is authorized to pay out up to $325 million this year to farmers who retire other crop land under the longer-term conservation reserve part of the soil bank. Under this part, farmers agree to retire land for periods of three, five or ten years.

Soil Bank Hurts South, Says Cotton Assn. Head

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)—The president of the American Cotton Association said Friday the soil bank program "has been most unsatisfactory and prejudicial to the economic welfare of the Southeast and to some section of the central belt."

Adolph Weil Jr. of Montgomery, Ala., told the association's 35th annual convention that "not only will the small country towns suffer and dry up but all agricultural industry must take the consequences."

He said already there are reports of the permanent closing down of some gins and sale and removal of others to other parts of the cotton belt. Fertilizer manufacturers are suffering and in the next few months, he predicted, transportation, warehousing and marketing and the cotton spinning industry must inevitably suffer.

Weil said government experiments in agriculture had the effect of "taking from the Southeast and Mid-South the right to grow cotton."

"Farmers all over the country have been told how much acreage could be planted but the application has resulted in heavy shifts of cotton acreage westward," Weil said.

"Continuation of the present farm policy will make the farmer's economic position more and more intolerable."

He said the cotton mill is faced with extinction unless government policies are reversed, and the farmer comparatively is economically more at a disadvantage today than when the policy was originally instituted.

Weil called for a compensatory payment program which he said would result in more and cheaper cotton and stimulate the general economy of the Old South.

"The nation has got us in a mess," said Dr. R. F. Poole, president of Clemson college, who said what is needed is "real, good leadership."

Speaking on the future of cotton in the Southeast, Poole painted a picture filled with danger that he said could only be avoided through increasing advances in cotton growing technology, insect and plant disease control, better strains of cotton and continued research into cotton uses.

Only Half Alabama Farmers Will Gain Soil Bank Benefits

Montgomery Ala P 84

Question

It developed that the Alabama cotton farmers who indicated they wanted to sign up for the Soil [illegible] will be allowed to participate in the program.

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee said today $17,257,400 is available for cotton and $9,435,900 for corn. Only about 50,000 cotton farmers will receive money, the ASC said, and about 6,800 corn farmers.

Available funds allotted to Alabama were divided on a "first come, first served basis" as producers [illegible] up for the program. Cullman County chairman.

Officials said each county will receive [illegible] Baldwin $159,081, Cherokee $110,-[illegible] Coffee $186,473, Conecuh $84,-[illegible] Covington $149,508, Dale $96,-[illegible] DeKalb $152,870, Escambia [illegible] Etowah $116,872, [illegible] $194,744, Houston $124,802, Jack-[illegible] $847,075, Limestone $[illegible] Madison $198,185, Marshall $192,-[illegible] 79, Monroe $74,745, and Morgan [illegible]

[illegible] 942, Greene $88,734, Hale $[illegible] Henry $286,975, Houston $[illegible] Jackson $313,974, Jefferson $[illegible] 32, Lamar $131,509, Lauderdale [illegible] $387,858, Lawrence $[illegible] $216,908, Limestone $[illegible] Lowndes, $[illegible] Macon $[illegible] Madison $423,149, [illegible] 38, Marion $[illegible] Marshall [illegible] 304, Mobile $155,977, Monroe [illegible] 53,429, Montgomery $[illegible] Morgan $388,833, Perry $170,877, Pickens $319,949, Pike $440,531, Randolph $203,171, Russell $[illegible] St. Clair $[illegible] Shelby [illegible] Sumter $[illegible] Talla-[illegible] $231,184, Tallapoosa $[illegible] Tuscaloosa $421,398, Walker $[illegible] [illegible] Washington $90,757, Wilcox [illegible] and Winston $92,[illegible]

Corn allocations in 17 counties where it is produced commercially [illegible]

The cotton allotments by counties are:

[illegible] $[illegible], Baldwin $137,-[illegible] Barbour $455,845, Bibb $141,-[illegible] Blount $[illegible], Bullock $157,-[illegible] Butler $[illegible], Calhoun $197,-[illegible] Chambers $[illegible], Cherokee [illegible] Chilton $[illegible], Choctaw [illegible] Clarke $[illegible], Clay, $[illegible] [illegible] Coffee $[illegible], Conecuh [illegible] Covington $[illegible], Dale $[illegible] Dallas $[illegible], DeKalb $[illegible] Elmore $[illegible], Escambia $[illegible] Etowah $[illegible], Fayette $[illegible] Franklin $[illegible]

Bank Officials Say Farmers Signing Up For Soil Acreage

Daily World, Atlantic City, N.J. P. 5 Sun. 1-19-58

WASHINGTON — (INS) — Soil bank officials said Friday that cotton and corn farmers are signing up for the 1958 soil bank acreage reserve so fast that some areas will soon be short of money for the program.

The response in Texas, Oklahoma and other southern states has been so great, officials said, that state-by-state allocations will be sent out Friday to insure even distribution of cotton program funds.

The sign-up for idling cotton, corn, rice and tobacco land began Monday and ends March 7. Enrollment now is running well ahead of expectations.

The new enthusiasm for the acreage reserve comes at a time when the Administration is asking Congress to kill the program in 1959.

President Eisenhower told Congress Friday that, although 21 million acres were idled last year, total production of all crops equalled previous records.

The sign-up by winter wheat growers last fall was two-thirds below a year earlier and appeared to indicate lack of farmer interest.

But officials point out that wheat farmers were suffering from drought in the fall of 1956, making the soil bank an atractive method of earning a guaranteed income regardless of the weather.

This year, wheat growing conditions are excellent but cotton and corn farmers were plagued by rainy weather at harvest time. The quality of the cotton crop was severely impaired and much wet corn is still unharvested.

Early reports from Texas indicate that farmers may deposit one and one-half million acres of cotton land in the acreage reserve this year. Last year's acreage barely exceeded a million acres.

Officials said participation is also going well in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and North Carolina.

Reports from corn states are incomplete but officials expect some increase because corn prices are sinking close to the level that would provide much the same income as soil bank payments.

Rice participation will probably be down, it was reported, because participation was at a very high level last year.

Kentucky soil bank agents reported they expect the sign-up in the burley tobacco belt will be double last year's.

REPORTS MOVE TO END PART OF SOIL BANK

Daily Tribune Wed 1-8-58 Chicago Ill.

Benson Hits at Acreage Reserve Provision

BY PHILIP WARDEN
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, Jan. 7—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson said today the administration will recommend termination this year of its costly soil bank acreage reserve program.

Under the program the government last year paid farmers 614 million dollars to eliminate 21 million acdes of their most valuable crop lands from either crop or pasture use during 1957.

President Eisenhower and Benson had presented the soil bank program to the nation two years ago as the last means left to curb farm overproduction.

Sees Special Farm Message

Benson told a press conference that President Eisenhower probably will send a special farm message to Congress about Jan. 15. In the message, Benson said, the President will recommend the abandonment of the acreage reserve after 1958 but bigger spending on the conservation reserve program.

The conservation reserve plan is a long range program under which farmers are paid substantial annual rents by the government to take thin or overused croplands out of production entirely and to plant the acreage with grasses or trees.

First year payments to farmers under the conservation reserve totaled $108,300,000. Contracts signed that first year provided that the contracting farmers would receive in future years annual government rental payments totaling 60 million dollars.

Benson announced on Dec. 10 that he was inviting farmers in Illinois, Maine, Nebraska, and Tennessee to put their entire farms on a trial basis into the conservation reserve for 5 or 10 years. This program will be continued and expanded.

Budget Same as Old

Benson told the press conference the agriculture department's budget for the next fiscal year beginning July 1 will call for no more money than it got this year, which was 5 billion 400 million dollars.

The acreage reserve program frequently has been criticized by congressmen. Only last week Rep. Henry S. Reuss [D., Wis.] filed suit in federal District court here to bar Benson from paying more than $3,000 a year to any one farmer under the acreage reserve program.

Reuss revealed that one Kansas farm operator, Garvey Farms, Inc., of Colby, received $278,187 last year for taking 22,779 acres of wheat land out of production.

Benson was asked by a reporter if he believes members of Congress will be "any less tough on you personally" in the new session of Congress which began today.

Benson grinned and said, "Only time will tell."

"Our mail," Benson added, "in the department has never run as favorable as it does today."

Calls Mail Favorable

Benson said it appeared to him that more farmers were sitting down at home with a pen or pencil and writing him personal letters in longhand mail is not nearly as heavy as it has been at other times, but than ever before. He said the mail is not nearly as heavy as it has been at other times, but because of its favorable attitude, "we have a lot of reason to be encouraged."

Benson said he had received only 13 letters about his announced intentions of reducing dairy price supports to 75 per cent of parity. Some press reports had implied the farmers in the major dairy states were up in arms over Benson's decision.

Benson was asked which bill he favored for establishing government agency jurisdiction over the meat packing industry—the bill of Sen. Arthur V. Watkins [R., Utah] or that of Rep. Harold D. Cooley [D., N. C.], chairman of the House agriculture committee. Benson said he and his staff believe the Cooley bill "is a pretty good compromise."

Talladega Farmers Get $281,184 From Soil Bank

Sunday Home News P. 1 Talladega, Ala.

MONTGOMERY (AP) — Alabama farmers will receive $17,247,400 for cotton and $2,435,900 for corn acreage placed under the soil bank acreage reserve program. Talladega County farmers will get $281,184.

Sun 2-9-58

B. L. Collins, state chairman of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, said the available funds allotted to Alabama were divided on a "first come, first serve" basis in the order they signed up for the program.

"Each county will receive the same percentage of the total money on signed agreements as of the clase of business Jan. 16, at which time the signing of agreements was discontinued," Collins said.

Although no agreements were signed by farmers in St. Clair County before the soil bank agreements were stopped, Collins said the ASC committee made an allocation of funds to that county under a state reserve set up for that purpose.

The cotton money will go to approximately 32,000 farmers, about half of those who had indicated they wanted to participate in the soil bank.

Collins said it is estimated about 260,000 acres of cotton will be retired from production.

About 93,000 acres of corn will be taken out of production under agreements with 6,800 farmers.

Cotton allotments by county include:

Calhoun $197,075, Colbert $369,080, Dallas $353,142, Etowah $160,289, Houston $486,418, Lauderdale $397,558, Lee $216,008, Madison $423,149, Morgan $283,833, Pike $440,331, Talladega $281,184, Tuscaloosa $421,398.

Corn allocations in 17 counties where it is produced commercially include:

Etowah $116,272, Houston $124,302, Madison $198,125, and Morgan $129,500.

COUNTIES TO DECIDE SOIL BANK PAYOFFS

Money To Go To Farmers Who Signed First

20,000 TO BE REJECTED

By The United Press

JACKSON, Miss., Feb. 6.—Mississippi's oversubscribed soil bank money will go to those cotton farmers who signed first in each county, it was announced Thursday.

The state Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee said the state's allotment of $20,484,600 has been allotted to counties.

"County committees have been told to consider agreements for approval on the first-come-first-served basis prescribed by soil bank regulations," state committee chairman J. R. Flautt of Swan Lake said. "This means county committees without exception will consider agreements for approval in the same order in which they were filed in the ASC county office.

"Since a sign-up of 29 million dollars must be cut back to $20,984,600 many agreements cannot be approved unless additional funds are allotted from Washington."

41,781 Signed

A total of 41,781 farmers had signed for soil bank participation when the Agriculture Department in Washington announced a halt because cotton states had over-subscribed. Later, 14,219 additional farmers signed that they wanted to participate if funds were available. In all, about 20,000 farmers in the state will be rejected because of lack of funds.

The county allotments range from $946,759 in Sunflower County to $250 in Hancock County.

To figure how much each county would receive, the committee allotted one fourth of the fund on the basis of the acreage reserve payment value of all cotton acreage allotted to each county. The remainder was allotted on the basis of the amount signed for in county offices when the sign-up was stopped on Jan. 16.

The state committee had been told by Washington that the signup of cotton acreage would not exceed available funds on a nationwide basis.

Most county offices were swamped with large numbers of cotton farmers when the signup opened on Jan. 13. On the fourth day Washington ordered a halt, and it was several days later that the state was informed its quota was cut about one-third from the amount already signed.

County Allotments

County allotments include Alcorn $193,863, Amite $196,533, Attala $216,005, Benton $132,896, Bolivar $783,839, Calhoun $335,442, Carroll $289,076, Chickasaw $213,030, Choctaw $71,981, Clay $97,141, Coahoma $529,289.

DeSoto $276,481, Grenada $259,710, Hinds $327,644, Holmes $487,259, Humphreys $472,692, Issaquena $100,118, Itawamba $214,230, Lafayette $197,974, Lee $321,261, Leflore $596,017, Lowndes $200,942, Madison $540,625, Marshall $322,374, Monroe $450,245, Montgomery $180,004, Neshoba $237,312, Newton $133,033, Noxubee $121,026.

Oktibbeha $58,050, Panola $588,905, Pontotoc $284,777, Prentiss $758,988, Sharkey $271,025, Sunflower $946,759, Tallahatchie $762,549, Tate $338,778, Tippah $272,701, Tishomingo $125,471, Tunica $311,798, Union $326,897, Warren $195,863, Washington $596,204, Winston $296,208, Yalobusha $191,639, Yazoo $626,965.

Farmers Still Hopefully Sign for Soil Bank Funds

Constitution Atlanta Ga.
Thurs. 2-21-58 p 14

Constitution State News Service

ATHENS, Feb. 19—A few optimistic farmers were rushing Wednesday to sign up for Soil Bank cotton and corn acreage reserve funds, a state Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation official reported. The official deadline is Thursday.

But Georgia farmers who didn't apply for funds during the first four days of the signup in January stand little chance of collecting money from ASC offices.

Already state farmers have asked for $16 million more than the acreage reserve allocation. Georgia's allocation is $20.5 million, but farmers have applied for $36.5 million, ASC figures show.

The program covers cotton, corn and tobacco. Tobacco growers may continue to apply for funds until March 7.

Nearly all the state's 159 counties are participating in the program and signups have exceeded funds in every county.

"The only way we can get all applicants included in the program is to get another appropriation from Congress," ASC committee chairman Leonard Morgan said here Wednesday. Morgan was in Athens for a regular meeting of the ASC committee.

His committee has been the target of many complaints after acreage reserve funds ran out.

Morgan pointed out the fund shortage was caused by a congressional cut in allocations while farmer applications for the program hit a new high.

The national acreage reserve fund was reduced by Congress from $750 million to $500 million. The 1957 fund was $750 million but farmers used only $614 million.

This year unfavorable weather and crop failures caused the acreage reserve applications to almost double in the state. Georgia farmers asked for $19 million last year compared with $36.5 million this year.

The ASC announced available funds would be distributed on a first-come first-served basis. After funds were exhausted some farm leaders and congressmen suggested that the money be prorated so that all applicants could participate in the program. Some farmers who were left out complained that they counted on the acre reserve program to get backing for bank loans.

"Farmers were aware that the program was originally set up on a first-come first-served basis," chairman Morgan said. "It seems unfair to change the rules in the middle of the program. If we did, those who signed up early would have their acreage reduced to make way for the latecomer."

The acre reserve program was set up to reduce crop surpluses. Payment rates under the program are figured on the basis of past production records of the farm and the farmer. No figures are available on the number of Georgia farmers seeking reserve funds, but it is estimated at about 50,000.

Some 155 counties are participating in the cotton acre reserve, 80 in the tobacco reserve and 28 in the corn program.

Benson Urged To Reverse Stand On Acreage Reserve

World Birm, Ala. p 3
Wed 2-19-58

WASHINGTON—(INS)— Cotton-belt lawmakers urged Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson Wednesday to reverse his stand against requesting more money for the logjammed soil bank acreage reserve.

The appeal came within a few hours of Benson's news conference statement that he did not intend to ask for a new appropriation to meet unexpectedly high demands for soil bank participation by cotton farmers.

Benson noted pointedly that Congress cut acreage reserve funds in the first place.

MORAL OBLIGATION

The entire Alabama Congressional delegation, headed by Sen. Lister Hill and John Sparkman, wrote Benson that the government has a "moral obligation" to let farmers put land into the acreage reserve.

They said that if Benson cannot "administratively fulfill this covenant" he should back emergency legislation to carry out the program.

Senator John Sherman Cooper (R) Ky., said he will introduce a bill to increase acreage reserve funds for corn farmers. He said Kentucky corn producers have already signed up for 11 million dollars worth of payments, but only six million is available.

The acreage reserve situation developed when farmers whose cotton and corn fields were deluged with rain last fall flocked to county offices last month to deposit land.

180 MILLION DOLLARS

More than 180 million dollars was alloted for cotton. This soon ran out and late-comers were put on waiting lists in county soil bank offices. It is now estimated that 250 million dollars would be needed to make payments on all cotton land offered to the arceage reserve.

The Agriculture Department left to state offices the decision whether to share available soil bank funds equally among all comers or to shut off payments to the farmers who signed up last.

Benson admitted that demands for a stepped-up acreage reserve for cotton leave him on the spot, since he is also under pressure to increase acreage allotment for the fiber.

He said it did not seem consistent to spend 180 million dollars to reduce acreage and then allow larger plantings.

Cotton millers and the American Farm Bureau Federation have endorsed the acreage increase on grounds that while the U. S. has a surplus of low-grade cotton, it is short of spinnable types.

House Okays $250 Million For Soil Bank

Montgomery Ala.
Advertiser p 1A

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (AP)—The House passed and sent to the Senate today a $2,857,882,907 supplemental appropriation bill after approving a $250 million increase in crease in soil bank farm benefits.

Passage was by voice vote.

The bill finances miscellaneous government agencies for the remaining months of the fiscal year ending June 30. Its largest allotment is $2,235,131,868 for the Agriculture Department, mainly to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for financing special commodity disposal programs.

The major argument was over the United States exhibit at the international exposition starting in Brussels in April. Congress already has provided $12,345,000 for this purpose. Today's bill would authorize use of another $1 million to be transferred from funds previously appropriated for the 1958 world trade fair in Gorki Park, Moscow.

Star 2-27-58

By voice vote, the House accepted an amendment by Rep. Fogarty (D-RI) earmarking the extra million for construction of a health exhibit at Brussels by the U.S. Public Health Service.

Rep. Rooney (D-NY), the bill's floor manager, sharply criticized the fair management. He said it had misrepresented the extent of Russia's participation in the Brussels fair and had resorted to "mismanagement and so much unadulterated nonsense" in an attempt to get more money.

Farmers Increase Income With Turkish Tobacco

NEWBERRY COUNTY, S. C. — Some cotton farmers in the Southeast are trying a few acres of Turkish tobacco as a sideline source of income, reports E. N. Williams, State supervisor of Negro extension work in South Carolina where part of the small crop is grown.

Turkish tobacco, used mainly for blending with regular domestic types in the manufacture of cigarettes, is in increased demand as a result of the higher cigarette consumption which is partly accounted for by the population rise.

Twenty years ago, when Americans were smoking only 158 billion cigarettes annually, imports of tobacco from Turkey totaled less than 20 million pounds.

437 BILLION

This year, with U. S. smokers expected to consume 437 billion cigarettes, close to 90 million pounds of Turkish tobacco will be imported. To this will be added an unofficial estimate of 200,000 pounds grown in this country.

One of the first colored farmers to begin growing Turkish tobacco in South Carolina, says Williams, is Eugene Graham of Newberry County. He has been growing one to two acres of the crop since 1951 to supplement his income from cotton and milk. Thirty-eight other colored farmers in the county also are growing the Turkish variety.

Last year, Graham grossed $712 off an acre and a fourth of the crop. His yield was down somewhat from 1955, his best year, when he grossed $1,137 off an acre and a half. He has received from 82 to 99 cents a pound for the tobacco — almost twice the average returns from regular flue-cured varieties.

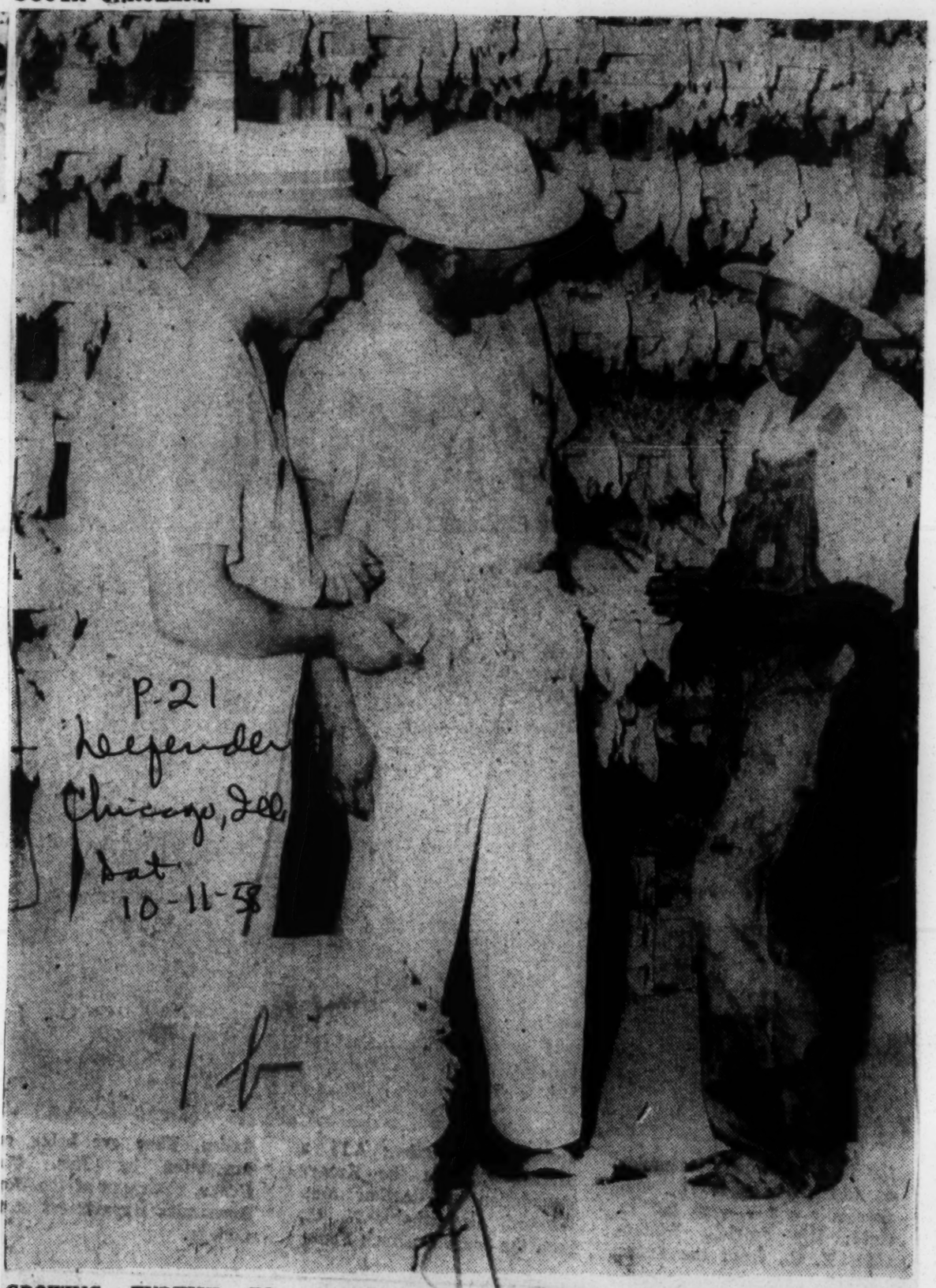
COTTON-MILK

Mr. and Mrs. Graham operate a 202-acre farm which belongs to the estate of his father who died in 1946. Last year they planted 12 acres to cotton (and harvested 8 bales), 40 to corn, 15 to oats, 10 to field peas, and 7 to wheat. The rest of their farm is divided between woodland and pastures for their hogs and small dairy herd. Their 8 milk cows produced more than 14,000 gallons of milk for market in 1957.

The Grahams have received considerable advice and counsel on crop production and livestock management from their county agent, B. J. Gill, and help with food preservation and improvement from their home agent, Mrs. Lillian G. Saunders.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham have been farming on their own since 1937. They hope soon to cut back more on cotton and increase their Turkish tobacco to 4 or 5 acres. Also they plan to enlarge their swine and dairy herds.

"With my tractor and other equipment, I think I can handle the increased production," says Mr. Graham.



GROWING TURKISH TOBACCO — Eugene Graham, right, first colored farmer of Newberry County, S. C., to grow Turkish tobacco, discusses the quality of his leaf with County Agent B. J. Gill, left; and State Extension Supervisor E. N. Williams. At lower left is a bale of the tobacco ready for shipment to market. (USDA Photo)

Farmer's co-op cut with new hatchet

By JOHN H. McCRAY

ELLOREE, S.C. — Their once effective economic hatchet no longer of use, Elloree's White Citizens Council dominated city fathers broke out with a new [illegible]

It is a business license, demanded suddenly of the Orangeburg County Farmers Co-op, a front organization of principally colored farmers.

And this is the story:

When colored Elloree parents submitted a petition to school officials in 1955 for integration of local schools, white citizens organized the White Citizens Council, first unit to be formed in the state.

In swift order, all signators on the petition and their families were dismissed from jobs and had their credit in local firms suspended. A similar boycott was thrown against all known and suspected NAACP members.

* * *

A FEW WEEKS later, the Elloree NAACP chapter assumed directorship of relief in the areas for the affected colored families. Relief amounted to food, clothing and loans for victims.

The relief not only restored the hope of the victims, but also bred a greater degree of independence.

In this independence was formation of co-operative buying groups, such as the Orangeburg County Farmers Co-op, which benefitted blighted families here and eslewhere in the county.

Working quietly, these groups developed means by which farmers were able to purchase seeds, fertilizers, farm implements etc., at a cheaper price than offered by local merchants.

* * *

LAST YEAR, colored farmers left whites aghast when carloads of seed and fertilizer arrived at the town's freight station. Whites looked on mutely while the farmers loaded up their trucks and wagons.

But this year the whites were waiting for them.

When two carloads of fertilizers were pulled into the freight station, on March 11 and the other March 14, white town officials went into action.

They demanded a town license to do business from the Orangeburg County Farmers Co-op, the organization which had the fertilizer shipped in.

What happened then? The Co-op paid the fee.

Farmers To Get $31,789,430 Federal Aid

COLUMBIA (AP) — South Carolina farmers' income will be swelled by $31,789,430 — at no cost to them — this year.

State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Administrative Officer W. S. Funk said Monday that's the amount of cash in federal aid farmers should get this year.

That amount has been made available. All but about 3¾ million dollars of it is in Soil Bank funds for not planting, and retiring, acreage in cotton, Tobacco, wheat, rice, and corn.

The 3¾ million is for conservation — diverting land to long-range conservation practices, such as growing trees.

The biggest hunk for not planting is slightly more than 24½ million available to cotton farmers. Tobacco growers can get 1½ million, wheat growers 1¼ million dollars, while corn and rice together can share less than 200 thousand dollars.

Farmers who are on waiting lists for participation in the 1958 Acreage Reserve Program are being notified to report to their respective county ASC offices before April 14 to sign the required Agreement to qualify them for participation in the program.

According to information received from the office of Funk, additional funds have been made available to take care of all requests from farmers to participate in the Acreage Reserve Program for cotton, tobacco, and rice. Farmers who previously requested agreements are being notified to go to the county offices in the order in which their requests are listed and sign the request agreements.

In the notices being sent farmers who are on the waiting list, they are being remined that even though they may have signed an agreement in January of this year, they must again visit the county office and refile the agreement by not later than April 14. They are cautioned that unless they do this they will not be in the program for 1958.

102 Top Hogs Sold at Big Exhibit

32 4-H Club Farmers in S. C. Show

By JOSEPH J. MITCHELL
(Agricultural Agent)

WALTERBORO, S. C. — A total of 32 farmers and 4-H Club members showed and sold 102 top hogs averaging 192 pounds at the first Fertilizer Fat Hog Show and Feeder Pig Show in Walterboro. In addition, there were 78 lightweight hogs averaging 130 pounds, and 158 good-quality feeder pigs, resulting in a net value of $7,399.98.

The show, held at the Walterboro Livestock Market, originated for the purpose of helping small farmers to purchase fertilizer and needed supplies.

What anyone can do to help himself, using his own natural resources, can be summed up in the results of this show:

- Farmer Frank McDonald, a renter, receiving $368.08, said, "Now I can buy my fertilizer."
- Farmer Melvin Ancrum, receiving $625.45, said, "Times are not as bad as they say they are if you plan and work."
- Farmer N. V. Edwards of the Catholic Hill community, receiving the highest honor among the farmers in the show, grossing $405.94 for the best hogs exhibited, said, "You know, I have always felt that cows were my salvation, but now I feel hogs are for the small farmer."

■

SHOW WINNERS — 4-H Division: Marion Robinson of the Farm and Home Development Area, grand champion, first place winner in pen of 1's, hog weighing 180 pounds and selling for $23.50 per 100 pounds; Hugo Crosby Jr., reserve champion, weighing 185 pounds, bringing $23.25 per 100 pounds, is from the Ruffin community.

Adult Division: N. V. Edwards of the Catholic Hill community won top honors among farmers with the best hogs in the show. He was followed by Frank McDonald of the Farm and Home Development Area.

Adult and 4-H Feeder Pigs: Franklin Patrick, 4-H Club member and grandson of James McDonald of the Round O community, won top place in feeder pigs' entry in pen of 5's, and Melvin Ancrum of the Springtown community won first place in pen of 6-or-more feeder pigs.

BEST PIGS—Farmer Melvin Ancrum, center, of the Springtown community, exhibited the best pens of feeder pigs in the farmer division in pens of six or more. Left to right: E. N. Williams, state supervisor of Negro extension work; farmer Melvin Ancrum and James E. Page, assistant Negro agricultural agent, Colleton County.

Summerville's Old Tea Farm Becomes Center Of Experimentation Once More

By PATRICIA REHAK

SUMMERVILLE (Special) — Summerville, famous for the flowers that attract thousands of tourists each year is fast becoming known for an entirely different reason.

The industrial area, located on the outskirts of town, in recent years has attracted a diversified group of light industries which include a brick works, planing mill, hardwood flooring mill, four aluminum plants, a concrete "Brickreete" works and a garment factory.

Harold Sebring (L) And G. F. Miller Watch Tea Picking

Industry, however is not new to Summerville. It had its beginning just before the turn of the century when tea was grown commercially at Pinehurst, the home of Dr Charles U. Shepard.

NEW OWNERS

Pinehurst, now known as The Tea Farm, is currently owned by Harold Sebring and George G. Miller.

"The first tea plants in the United States were set out in 1890 in the Rose Garden and in hedges along the garden roads at Pinehurst," according to information contained in a typewritten booklet belonging to Sebring. The information was compiled from a scrapbook of newspaper clippings that belonged to Dr. Shepard and from notes kept by the doctor and his staff during the experiments conducted at Pinehurst. Other facts and data were taken from the Encyclopedia Britannica.

"The Rose Garden was a piney woods pond cleared and sub-soiled to an 18-inch depth, then sub-surfaced, drained and heavily sweetened with burnt marl to condition the soil. One thousand Assam-hybrid tea plants were set out at 6-by-6-foot spacing, covering little less than one acre of land. Nine hundred of the plants survived." Production recorded for this planting showed a steady increase each year with 56 pounds of green leaf for 1892 and 1,200 pounds for 1898. The yield of the 1898 crop in manufactured tea was 300 pounds, or about five ounces of tea per plant. According to the notes this was a favorable comparison with oriental production.

COST PER POUND

In figuring the cost per pound for this production Dr. Shepard recorded the following break-down: pruning—3c; manuring—3c; cultivation—1½c; leaf picking—14c; factory work—6c. A selling price is not listed, however the booklet reads that "the work at Summerville indicated a net profit of at least 10c per pound, or $40 per acre could be realized annually from a tea garden.

Dr. Shepard experimented with various soil nutrients and various planting depths to determine the most conducive procedure to retain moisture which was essential to tea culture. He found that in planting cow peas between the plants in autumn "that the roots would penetrate the soil and when dead, not only furnished plant food but rendered the soil more porous."

PRUNING SYSTEM

A pruning system also had to be worked out as the oriental method proved disastrous to the American - grown plants. It is noted that experiments were almost discontinued because of this. However, Dr. Shepard did develop a system whereby the breadth of the plant could be increased without increasing the height, thereby eliminating the sucker growth that the oriental method had induced. This new method also secured the strength of shoots, enabling them to react with the production of new leaves after each picking. "This discovery permitted the growing of tea — normally a forest - protected plant — in open fields and was recognized by tea experts as an important contribution to tea culture."

In an article published in the Charleston Sunday News, dated Feb. 11, 1906, it is stated that the main factory at the Tea Farm contained 9,000 square feet of floor space. In an adjacent building, there were 3,000 square feet for machine shop, withering lofts, and for packing and shipping tea. Plans were made to add 2,000 more square feet, which upon completion would permit the factory to handle 50,000 to 100,000 pounds of dry tea annually.

POLISHED FINISH

It was noted that some oriental tea had a polished grey finish achieved by addition of powdered talc and other matter. It was learned through experiments at Summerville that this polished finish could be obtained by friction of the leaves against each other. An ordinary butter churn was first used for this polishing and required less than an hour's operation.

When the manufacture of tea began in earnest at the Tea Farm Dr. Shepard had designed a cylinder for this polishing process. It was a slowly revolving cylinder through which the tea leaves advanced by a series of projecting flights. The "Rotary Witherer," as it was called, was made at R. J. Riley's Iron Works in Charleston, in accordance with Dr. Shepard's design. Hot air at 400 degrees was blown through the cylinder rendering the leaves flabby. "The heating is necessary to destroy the enzymes that otherwise would cause fermentation or oxidization", the notes explain.

ROLLING PROCESS

The rolling process, the step before the firing process, was done at Pinehurst by machine also instead of by hand as was practiced in the Orient.

The firing process, according to the booklet, is the most important step in the entire process of manufacturing tea. Both flavor and fragrance depend upon the care and attention given this process. If the temperature is too high it will dissipate the aromatic oils and if it is too low to remove the excess moisture the tea rapidly deteriorates in quality.

The tea was packed hot in airtight cans and kept until graded and packaged for sale. "The airtight container preserved the color of the leaves and produced a flavor not found in tea that has been oxidized," the booklet says.

Machinery almost entirely replaced hand labor in the manufacture of tea at the Tea Farm. The machinery in use was invented and patented by Willaim Jackson of England, "who it is understood was a brother of John Jackson, who had a governmental tea garden at old Newington Plantation in Summerville," Sebring said.

TRAINING PICKERS

The picking of tea could not be done by machine and in order to speed up the process Dr. Shepard set up a school at Pinehurst to train Negro boys and girls for this highly specialized job. One had to be thoroughly trained to determine at touch the leaves suitable for making tea. Only tender terminal leaves could be used as Dr. Shepard was striving for perfection in quality and flavor because the tea must be superior to the imported tea in order to sell well.

Pinehurst was also the scene of the first instant tea process. The instant tea, which was in tablet form, required one and one-half years of experimenting by Dr. Shepard and his staff. It is recorded that the tablet "dissolves quickly in water and retains its flavor." A total of 20 tablets were packaged to a box "the size of a match box," and sold for 25 cents. They were manufactured under the name of Pinehurst Oolong American Breakfast and Pinehurst Green.

TEA TABLET

It was noted that the tea tablet was not new and had been used by Russian and Japanese soldiers during the Russian-Japanese War.

The experiments and manufacture of tea stopped at the Tea Farm with the death of Dr. Shepard July 4, 1915. In 1917 the building containing the machinery for manufacturing tea was destroyed.

Dr. Shepard's effort to demonstrate that tea could be grown profitably in the United States was a success. Tea was manufactured at the Tea Farm and sold at a profit. But the more cheaply produced oriental tea was not seriously threatened by the experiment.

If Dr. Shepard had lived to put into operation the idea he was working on at the time of his death, and had it been successful, he would have overcome the one obstacle that prevented real competition with imported tea. The plan was to encourage the growing of tea by small farmers who could process it just enough to get it to the factory. It also was to encourage the planting of unused corners of gardens by home owners with tea bushes or ornamental evergreen hedges of tea and replacing unsightly fences with tea hedges. The surplus tea, after home use, would go to the factory.

HONORED BY U. S.

The United States Government considered Dr. Shepard's experiments worthy of appointing him special assistant to the secretary of agriculture.

Tea experiments have resumed at the Tea Farm — more than 40 years after the experiments by Dr. Shepard and his staff, and 70 years following the beginning of tea culture at Pinehurst.

These new experiments are being conducted by Thomas J. Lipton of the widely known tea firm bearing his name.

With the arrival of spring the first plucking has begun and will continue until the pruning season, Sebring said. Terminal leaves appear approximately every six weeks, he said. These leaves are taken immediately from the field and packed in ice for shipping to the Lipton laboratory at Hoboken and to the Clemson Truck Experimental Station in Charleston. Results from these experiments have not been announced as yet.

State Home Demonstration Agents Get Supreme Service Awards

State College, Miss. May 27 — The Tippah County Extension staff at Ripley and Mrs. Lucille K. Stennis, home demonstration agent at Starkville, have won Superior Service Awards of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Department announced today.

The unit citation for the Tippah County agents is one of two in the nation to county Extension staffs this year. It is the third time in the past four years that Mississippi Extension staffs have won such an honor.

Superior Service awards will go to 143 persons and units in all branches of the USDA throughout the nation, including 26 to individual Extension Service workers.

Members of the Tippah County staff named in the citation are County Agent William M. Bost; former Home Demonstration Agent Mary H. McMillin; Associate Home Demonstration Agent Mildred Huguley Hurt; Associate County at Ripley to county agent at Houston; Assistant County Agent Durward W. Morgan, and Negro Home Demonstration Agent Ethel Edmond Parks, who is no longer serving in the county. Not included in the official citation but given much credit by the staff are secretaries, Mrs. Gordon Clayton of the county agent's office and Mrs. Travis Dillinger, who served in the home agent's office during the period for which the staff is being honored.

The awards to to Tippah County staff, a bronze plaque and individual certificates, will be presented June 11 at a program in Ripley. Home Agent Stennis receives her certificate this morning during a ceremony in Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Stennis' formal citation is "For training leaders and developing methods that effectively met the changing needs of both farm and non-farm homemakers and 4-H Club girls, resulting in improved living for thousands of families."

She has served in her present position since October, 1947, guiding both Home Demonstration Club and girls' 4-H Club programs. During 22 years in Extension, she has also served in Kemper, Smith, Neshoba and Newton Counties.

Although she has excellent cooperation from public school officials, Mrs. Stennis felt the need for additional time with 4-H members in smaller groups. She has organized 10 out-of-school 4-H Clubs in the past three years, the largest number of such clubs in any county in the state. With the assistant county agent helping, both boys and girls belong to most of these clubs. Results include almost 100 percent project completion, more active participation by parents; and higher quality in project work, demonstrations and judging.

Mrs. Stennis' record includes outstanding success in training and using volunteer local leaders, developing an active 4-H Advisory Council, adapting Home Demonstration Club work to the needs of non-farm as well as farm women, emphasis on home improvements, and pioneer work in 4-H Club camping and recreation.

The citation to the Tippah County staff is "For application of effective teaching methods resulting in new agricultural markets, increased farm income, better living, and greater opportunity for nonfarm employment."

Tippah is one of the pilot counties in a Rural Development program conducted by all agencies of the U. S. Department of Agriculture with state and local groups cooperating. Leadership in this program by members of the Tippah Extension staff, mostly in this program by members of the Tippah Extension staff, mostly during 1956 and 1957, resulted in:

1. The county's first milk receiving plant was built with $25,000 loaned by local citizens without interest. The loans were repaid in full after a few months when a larger plant in another town took over the Tippah plant. Because of this plant, 150 farmers sell milk who were not doing so before. Many farmers have increased the size of their herds and their production per cow.

2. Local leaders raised $1,200 and started an artificial breeders association for dairymen.

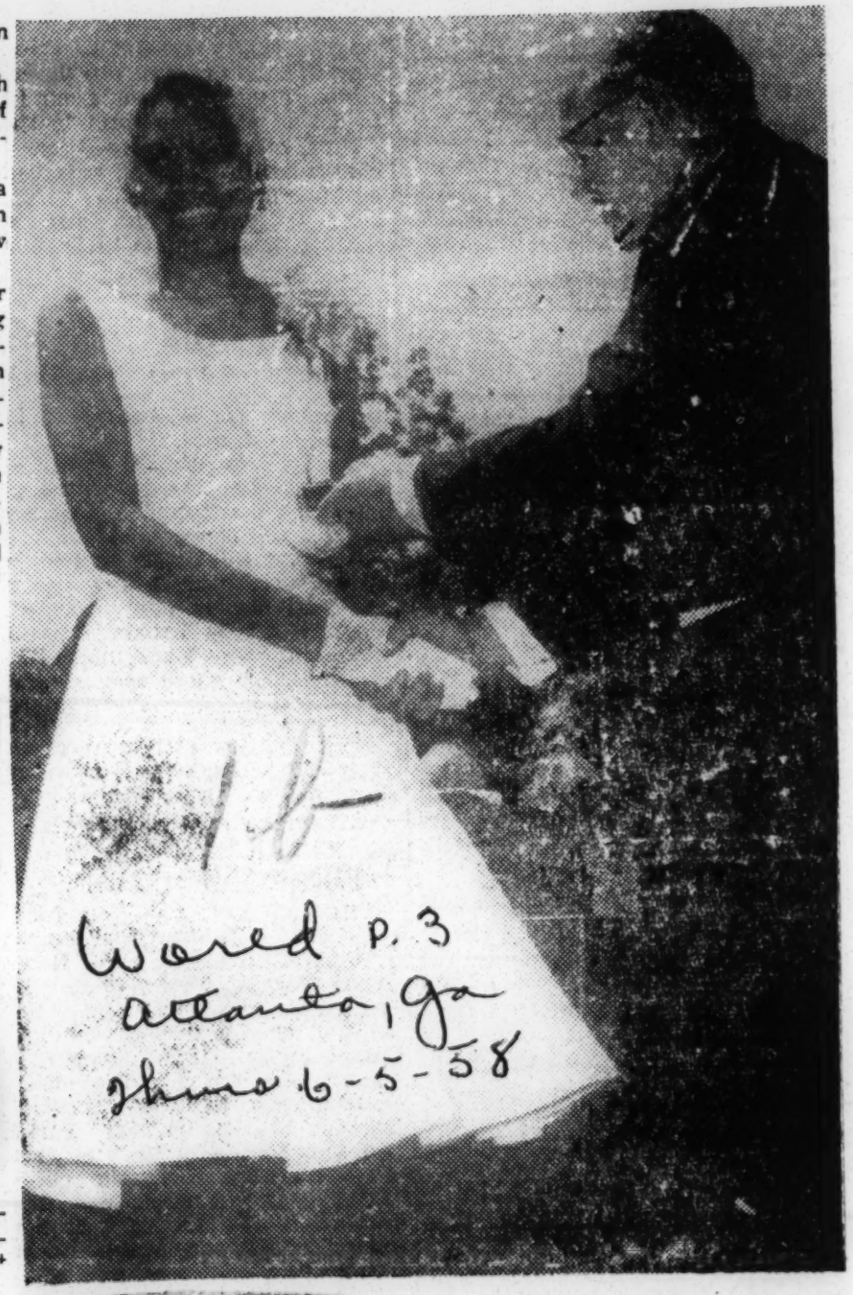
3. A labor survey conducted by the Rural Development committee showed more than 500 women interested in off-farm jobs. This caused a local clothing plant to expand, increasing its number of employees from 160 to more than 300.

4. A number of families each grow and market a half acre of strawberries for additional income.

5. Local merchants conduct a monthly trade day awards program featuring a registered dairy cow as first prize.

6. Many families increased their income and improved their living by using information that reached them through Balanced Farm and Home Planning and rural community clubs, both assisted primarily by Extension. In every community, the results are seen in better dairy herds, improved grazing, higher crop yields, modern milking barns, home gardens and better homes.

Agent Ray M. Sartor; C. B. Betterton, Jr., who has been transferred from associate county agent



SUPERIOR SERVICE AWARD — Mrs. India J. Clayton, supervisor of the Copy Preparation Unit, U. S. Department of Agriculture, is shown receiving a Superior Service Award from Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson during ceremonies last week on the Washington Monument Grounds before 5,000 USDA employees. Mrs. Clayton was one of 127 to be so honored. Home address: 760 Rock Creek Church Road, N. W.—(USDA Photo)

Best Negro P To P Farmers Claim Prizes At Annual Rally

(Pictures on Page 12)

By WALTER DURHAM
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

A Washington County, Miss., landowner and a Haywood County, Tenn., tenant were named yesterday as sweepstakes champions in the Negro division of The Commercial Appeal's 1958 Plant To Prosper Contest.

The ceremony took place at the 21st annual Plant To Prosper Rally at Booker T. Washington High School. It brought to Memphis about 650 farm people and agricultural leaders.

Selected as sweepstakes champions in the landowner division were Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Johnson, 58 and 33, respectively, of near Greenville, who own a 55-acre cotton, soybean, hog and truck farm.

They received a $400 cash prize from the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and The Commercial Appeal. The presentation was by John Hembree of the C of C agricultural committee.

Tops as Tenants

In the tenant division, the sweepstakes honor went to Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Perry, 54 and 48, respectively, of near Brownsville, who operate a 90-acre cotton, corn and truck farm.

They received $300 in prizes from the Tri-State Fair and The Commercial Appeal. The presentation was made by Prof. R. J. Roddy, fair manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Lelon Tillman, 58 and 36, respectively, of near Bruce in Calhoun County, Miss., won the $50 home improvement sweepstakes award. They also received $25 for placing first in the state.

Along with the cash, the sweepstakes winners received gifts of silverware from The Commercial Appeal. Other cash prizes, totaling $1,210, were awarded to state winners in the various divisions.

Also presented were trophies to the agricultural workers who produced the landowner and tenant champions. Receiving the landowner trophy were Charlie Burton, Negro county agent and Mrs. Ernestine Page Strong, home demonstration agent of Washington County. The tenant plaque went to F. E. Jeffries, Negro county agent, and Mrs. Maggie O. Moore, Negro home agent of Haywood County.

L. J. Washington Talks

The rally, which included a barbecue dinner, had L. J. Washington, agriculturist for the Farmers Home Administration in Washington, as principal speaker. He was introduced by Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High.

The event was under the direction of Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent. John Gammon Jr. of Marion, Ark., president of the Negro section of the Arkansas Farm Bureau and a former landowner sweepstakes champion in the contest, presided.

Guests were welcomed by Gordon Hanna, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal, who drew loud applause when he announced the contest will be held again in 1959.

Negro Farmers Rally Tomorrow

L. J. Washington Of FHA To Be Principal Speaker At P To P Gathering

By WALTER DURHAM
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

With L. J. Washington, agriculturist for the Farmers Home Administration in Washington, as principal speaker, the 21st annual rally of the Negro division of The Commercial Appeal's Plant To Prosper Contest will be held at the Booker T. Washington High School gymnasium tomorrow, starting at 10 a.m.

Mr. Washington, one of the nation's best known Negro educators and agricultural leaders, will be presented by Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High. Some 600 farm families, professional agricultural workers, educators and representatives of the Negro press will attend.

$1,985 In Prizes

A highlight of the program will be the presentation of $1,985 in state and sweepstakes prizes to families of Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee and Missouri who have done the best jobs this year in efficient farm production and homemaking.

The top prize money of $350 will go to the most outstanding landowner of the four states. The presentation will be made by Ray Strong on behalf of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and The Commercial Appeal.

Other Awards Planned

A tenant sweepstakes prize of $250, given by the Tri-State Fair, will be presented by Prof. R. J. Roddy, fair manager and principal of Shelby County Training School.

State cash prizes to landowner, tenant and home improvement winners will be given by Walter Durham, contest director, on behalf of The Commercial Appeal. He also will present the $50 home improvement sweepstakes award.

An old-fashioned Southern barbecue dinner will climax the rally.

Negro Farmers To Attend Rally

Plant To Prosper Winners Coming Friday For Prizes

By WALTER DURHAM
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

To reap the rewards they have earned by a year of intensive efforts on their farms, about 600 Mid-South Negro farmers, with their families, agricultural and educational leaders, will come to Memphis Friday as guests of The Commercial Appeal.

The event will be the 21st annual Negro division rally of the Plant To Prosper Contest in Booker T. Washington High School. It will start at 10 a.m.

Co-operating Groups

The rally is being held in co-operation with the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, the Tri-State Fair and the Agricultural Extension Services and Farmers Home Administration of Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Missouri.

Highlights of the program will be an address by L. J. Washington, agriculturalist for the Farmers Home Administration at Washington, and the presentation of $1,985 in cash prizes to state and sweepstakes winners. The Commercial Appeal also will present special gifts to the sweepstakes champions.

Barbecue Dinner

Gordon Hanna, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal, will make the welcome address. Other speakers include W. H. Williamson, Tennessee assistant state extension agent in Negro work, and Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High.

Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent, is in charge of the program, and John Gammon Jr. of Marion, Ark., president of the Negro division of the Farm Bureau, will preside.

An old-fashioned Southern barbecue dinner will climax the program. Entertainment will be by bands and choral groups of Memphis, Shelby County and Mid-South schools.

Farmer Succeeds After 19 Years As A Share Cropper

"I don't believe in giving up," says J. H. Walker, a Denmark, Tenn., farmer who sharecropped for 19 years before being able to start buying a farm of his own.

"We have always been determined to keep on inching ahead," Walker points out. It took him and his wife five years to save up enough to buy a horse and mare to raise a team of their own horse's offspring for workstock. And it took two more years to qualify for a loan from the Farmers Home Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture so the Walkers could buy enough fertilizer and insecticide and other things to help them farm more efficiently.

But time didn't matter much to Mr. and Mrs. Walker so long as they were getting ahead. And they were moving forward by improving their farming methods and growing more of their own food. However, for years they had been wanting a farm of their own, but could never meet the purchasing terms of the farms that were offered for sale.

$11,000 LOAN

In 1955 they went to Farmers Home and succeeded in obtaining an $11,000 loan to buy a 135-acre farm with a good house on it. After 19 years of inching along, sharecropping and farming on shares with their own workstock, they had made the big jump.

Today, Mr. and Mrs. Walker and their five children are ahead of schedule in paying the Government for their farm which is now worth close to $20,000, including their tractor and livestock.

In moving forward, the Walkers have had the advice and counsel of their Farmers Home supervisor, Clarence Norfleet, and County Supervisor-at-Large James A. Williamson. These officials have helped them with their planning and detailed budgeting.

Also the family's Extension Service farm and home demonstration agents, A.M. Dobbins and Miss Anna B. Jackson, have given them pointers on crop and livestock production and household management.

INCREASE YIELD

And the Walkers have made good use of this assistance. They have increased their cotton yield by nearly a third. But they are not depending on just cotton. Eighteen head of beef cattle and 20 hogs are grazing in their improved pastures.

Looking to the future, the family plans to cut back some on cotton, and increase their livestock. To this end, they are increasing their corn production, and developing improved pastures. Already they have 50 acres — or nearly half their farm — in hay and forage crops.

BEST FIELDS

"You have one of the best fields of lespedeza sericea in Tennessee," the family was told last fall by Lionel R. Barrett, assistant to the state director of Farmers Home, when he visited them.

Besides tending to their crops and livestock, Mr. and Mrs. Walker are rearing and educating their children. One daughter was graduated from Tennessee A and I State university recently. She is now teaching home economics in the local high school. A son is in college in Kansas, and two children are in school at home.

"Sometimes it seemed we weren't going to make it," says Walker, "but we never gave up."

IN LIVESTOCK — FEED FIRST — J. H. Walker, center, Denmark, Tenn., farmer who is going into livestock production the sound way by developing a feed supply first, is showing two Farmers Home Administration officials the quality of grass and legumes he is growing in his pastures. At left is Lionel R. Barrett, assistant to the state director; and at right is James A. Williamson, county supervisor at-large. Part of Mr. Walker's starter beef cattle herd of 18 head is in the background.—USDA Photo

FORM. . DISADVANTAGED FARMERS MOVING AHEAD.—These farmers, who formerly were disadvantaged, are moving ahead partly as a result of credit aid and counsel from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Top panel, left to right: O. D. Maclin of Somerville, Tenn., looks over part of his hog crop. He expects to sell 50 head this fall. In the background is his home which is being veneered with brick. Ivory D. Clark-Swedesboro, N. J., is proud of his sweet potatoes. Admiring them with him are two Farmers Home officials, Stephen Wirn, center, New Jersey area supervisor; and L. J. Washington of the Washington office. At extreme right Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Smith, Helena, Ark., prepare to hang the swing on the porch to their new home while Farmers Home County Supervisor At-Large Jesse Mason, right, looks on. Bottom panel: Harry Lewis, Sulphur Springs, Texas, dairy farmer, and one of his sons, Robert, check their silage cutter. In the background is their attractive home. At right Willie Scroggins, center, Idabel, Okla., is spraying his beef cattle herd while County Agent Andrew B. Murray and Farmers Home Supervisor At-Large Hollis D. Stearns help him round up the cattle.

—USDA photos.

YAMS . . . YAMS . . . EVERYWHERE—Up to her ears in yams is Hetty Fae Crawford, Marshall, Tex. high school senior who, as a 4-H project raised 15 of the 78 million turkeys produced this year by U. S. farmers.

She and her family also raised yams and pumpkins and disposed of many of them at their roadside market during the Thanksgiving season.

Ike's Farm Got $2000 For Not Growing Corn

World Telegram P.17
Newyork Ny.
Aug 18 58

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.— President Eisenhower's Gettysburg farm has been paid about $2000 during the past two years for taking wheat and corn acreage out of production.

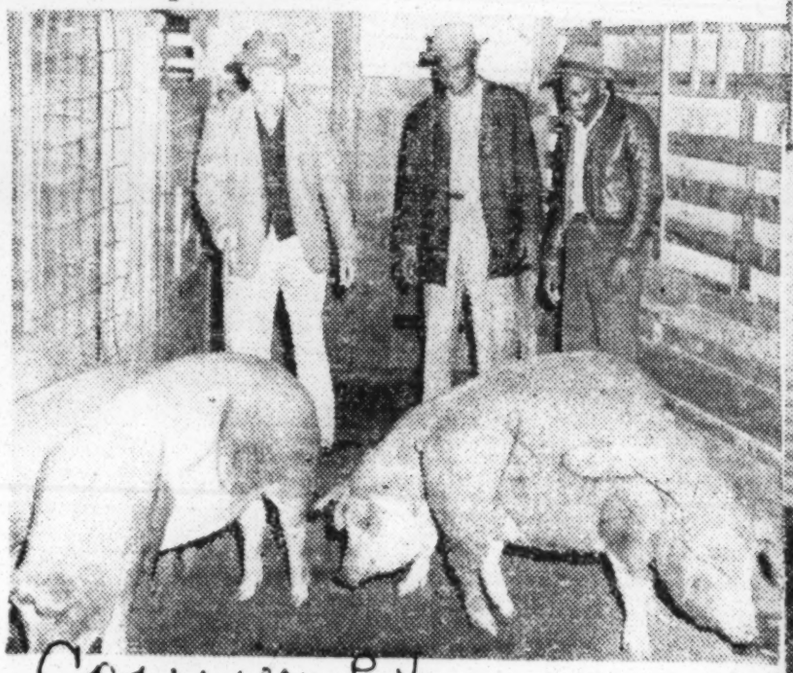
The payments were made under the Eisenhower administration's "soil bank" program of paying farmers for letting land lie idle in order to curtail surplus production. Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson announced yesterday the administration will ask Congress to scrap the program after this year.

Glen Miller, office manager of the Adams County, Pa Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Committee, said today he did not know the exact amount of payments made to the President's farm but it was "about $2000."

Mr. Miller said the payments were not made directly to the President but "the signature of either (retired Brig. Gen. Arthur S.) Nevins or (George E.) Allen was good enough for us."

Mr. Allen and Gen. Nevins are neighbors of the President and associated with him in the operation of his farm.

James C. Hagerty, White House press secretary, told reporters he knew nothing about the payments.



Courier P 7
Jan 4-26-59
Portsmouth Va

TOP HOGS—N. V. Edwards, left, farmer of the Catholic Hill community, father of Austin Edwards, state adminstrative office of Farm and Home Administration in South Carolina, exhibited his five top hogs in the annual fertilizer fat hog and feeder pig show and sales in Walterboro, S. C. Left to right: Mr. Edwards, Joseph J. Mitchell, Negro agricultural agent, and James E. Page, assistant Negro agricultural agent, Colleton County.

Working For Improvements . .

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Everson and two children of Disputanta, Va. plant tree as part of beautification program. The Eversons ob- tained a government loan two years ago to build attractive home in background. They also built a barn and made other improvements.

Low Cost Loans Are Increasing

Virginia Farmer Typical Of Those Helped By U. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Many farm shacks may soon disappear as the stepped-up farm housing loan program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture gets underway.

As an anti-recession move, the Department's Farmers Home Administration is making it easier for farm owners, now living in unsatisfactory dwellings, to obtain loans to provide adequate housing for their families.

A FARM OWNER who produces at least $400 worth of products for sale or home use may now qualify for a housing loan from the Farmers Home, provided he meets the standard eligibility requirements, including inability to obtain adequate credit elsewhere. Formerly an eligible applicant had to own a farm that produced a more substantial part of the operator's annual cash income.

Loans may be obtained to build, improve, or repair farm homes and other essential farm buildings, as well as to provide water for the farmstead and household. The rate of interest is four percent, and the repayment period 33 years.

• • •

LAST YEAR the Farmers Home made loans to 111 colored farm families to build, repair, or modernize their homes. And since establishment of the agency 21 years ago, more than 10,000 colored families have not only received loans to provide themselves with better homes, but also to buy, enlarge, or improve farms of their own.

Typical of the farms who have received such loans in recent years is Percy Everson of Disputanta, Va. He obtained a loan two years ago to build a modern eight-room house for his family of seven, dig a deep well, build a barn, and fence and improve his pastures.

• • •

THE BROKEN-DOWN house out of which the family moved is now being used for storage of hay for their beef cattle and two milk cows. The tumble-down old house stands in the backyard of their attractive white Cape Cod bungalow.

Mr. Everson, a 36-year-old veteran of World War II, farmed with his father before he went off to serve in Europe with a chemical warfare unit. But upon his return to his wife and oldest child in 1946, he started out on his own as a sharecropper. During evenings he went to school to learn more about farming.

• • •

WITHIN TWO years, the Eversons managed by careful planning to save up $1,000 to pay down on a 120-acre farm of their own. Four years later they paid out, and began trying to put aside enough to build a home and a barn. After three years of trying, they decided to apply to the Farmers Home for a loan.

Now the Eversons are busy developing pastures, expanding their beef cattle herd, and making other improvements to help them increase their income. Mr. Everson has been hoping to get into livestock production for some time.

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"MY FIRST effort failed" he explains, "because I put the cart before the horse. I bought my brood cows before I had pastures and a good feed supply for them. It just didn't work; in no time I had to sell them for lack of feed."

"But this time Mr. Everson has gone into livestock right," declared County Farmers Home Supervisor Milton K. Brown. "He has good pastures and he has increased his corn yield from 35 to 60 bushels per acre."

IN ADDITION to his earnings from livestock, cotton, peanuts, and soybeans, he makes money hauling timber with his two-ton truck, and picking peanuts for his neighbors with his picker.

Most of the Eversons' extra earnings are applied toward their loan. They hope to pay out by 1966 — many years ahead of time. "We want to hurry up," says Mrs. Everson, "so that we can call this house our very own."

Nansemond Family Wins Rural Progress Award

By J. A. BOWLER

SUFFOLK, Va. — The annual awards program, sponsored by the Negro State Agricultural Advisory Board of Virginia, was held on the Owen's farm in Nansemond county, Thursday May 15, honoring members of the Frank E. Owens family.

Several outstanding State and County farm agents were heard on the program that featured Antoine H. Fuhr, of the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C. as guest speaker.

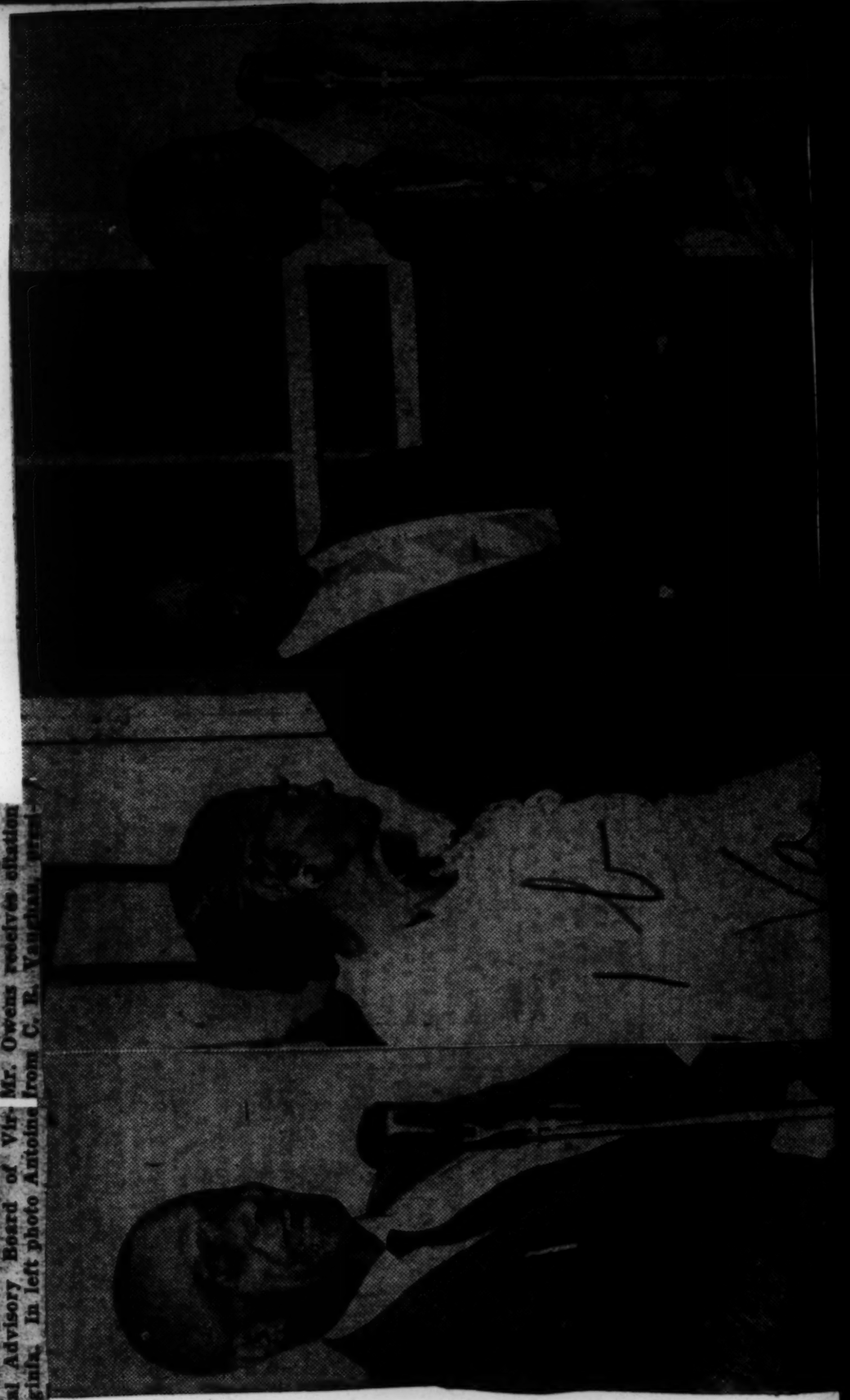
THE PROGRAM culminated with the presentation of a plaque to the Owens family for outstanding progress in farming. C. R. Vaughan, president of the Negro State Agricultural signed to give recognition to sentation.

ly, Southampton county; A. R. Glover Family, Isle of Wight county; and John H. Maclin Family, Brunswick county.

N. F. Lancaster, local farm agent, Nansemond county, was the master of ceremonies on the program. Others heard were Mrs. Bernice Owens Wynn, Baltimore, Md., who delivered the welcome address musical selections by Miss Alma Elliott, local home agent Norfolk; Frank E. Owens, who gave the history and operations of the Owens Farm; Miss H. S. Powell, oca home agent, Nansemond county, who introduced the speakers; and the Rev. J. G. Williams, Harrisonburg, Va.

The award program is designed to giv erecognition to one farm family annually. Families receiving the award (plaque) have made considerable progress in areas of soil and water conservation, crop, livestock and poultry produc tion, sound business methods for the farm and home, good family relations, and community and county leadership.

THIS MARKS THE fifth farm family award by the Advisory Board since 1953. Other farm families receiving the awards include, Harvey M. Thomas Family, Caroline County, T. B. McClenny Fami-



dent of the Negro State Agricultural Advisory Board, while Mrs. Owens looks on.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Owens of Nansemond county had their day last Thursday when they received the annual state farm progress award given annually by the Negro State Agricultural Advisory Board of Virginia. In left photo Antoine H. Fuhr, information-extension specialist with the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C., is shown delivering principal address at program honoring the Owens. In center photo Mr. Owens receives citation from C. R. Vaughan, president

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 164

Nearly 200 persons gathered on the front lawn of the Owens home to watch the successful farm couple receive the fifth annual farm progress award. Left photo shows a section of the crowd. In the background is the Owens' well-kept farm home. Farm officials who attended the program included H. L. Mackie, [illegible] acre farm in Nansemond county. (Guide photos by Bowler)

county farm agent, Lawrenceville, Va.; Miss Thelma Hamilton, home economics instructor, Suffolk; M. C. Harding, county farm agent, Loudenberg county; Mrs. Georgia Tyler, Windsor, Va.; and Mrs. Elaine Estes, Suffolk. The Owens operate

On hand for the occasion were the Owens' children (right photo). Shown are, front row, Mrs. Gerale Wynn, Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Queens, Mr. Owens, Mrs. Ruth Jackson, Balti[illegible]re; Back row, Mrs. Mary Davis, Suffolk; Carlton Owens, who helps his father run the farm; and Mrs. Arlene Cox, Baltimore.

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Wynn, Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. [illegible]
Owens, Mr. Owens, Mrs. [illegible]
Ruth Jackson, Baltimore. [illegible]
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VIRGINIA

Government Loans Will Aid Eye-Sore Shacks To Vanish

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33 YEARS TO PAY

Loans may be obtained to build, improve, or repair farm homes and other essential farm buildings, as well as to provide water for the farmstead and household. The rate of interest is four per cent, and the repayment period 33 years.

Last year the Farmers Home made loans to 111 farm families to build, repair or modernize their homes And since establishment of the agency 21 years ago, more than 10,000 families have not only received loans to provide themselves with better homes, but also to buy, enlarge, or improve farms of their own.

Typical of the farmers who have received such loans in recent years is Percy Everson of Disputanta, Va. He obtained a loan two years ago to build a modern eight-room house for his family of seven, dig a deepwell, build a barn, and fence and improve his pastures.

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WENT TO NIGHT SCHOOL

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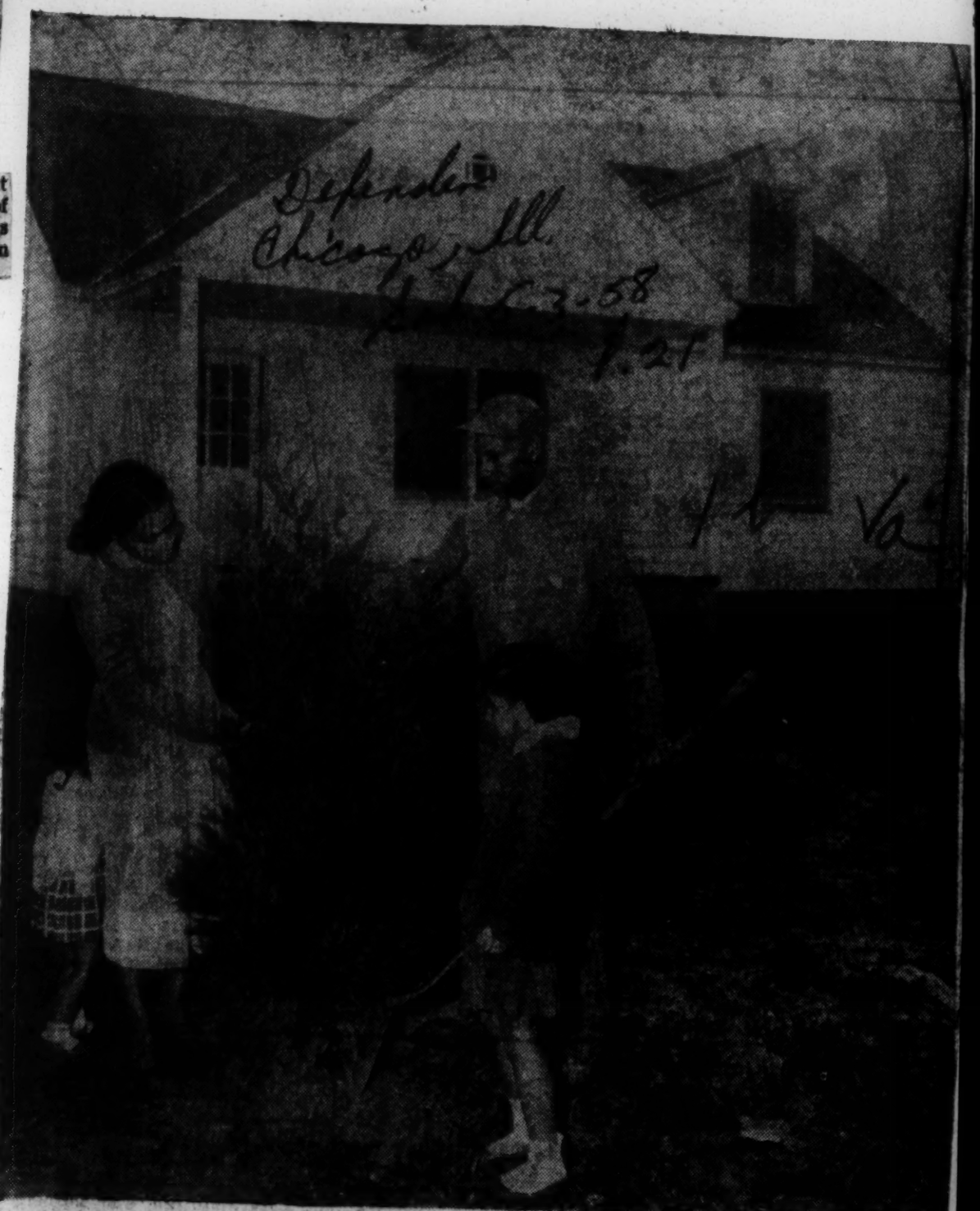

NEW FARM HOME may increasingly replace old shacks as a result of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's anti-recession home loan program. Mr. and Mrs. Percy Everson of Disputanta, Va., and two of their five children — Ruth Arlene, 3; and Thelma Marie, 6 — are beautifying their yard. The Eversons obtained a loan from the USDA's Farmers Home Administration two years ago to build this attractive home. They also built a barn and made other improvements. — USDA Photo.

Farms in Virginia Shrink 3,000 to 4,000 a Year

Farms in Virginia are decreasing in number at an estimated rate of 3,000 to 4,000 a year.

Recently revised figures of the Department of Agriculture show that Virginia had an estimated 144,000 farms in 1956 compared with 198,00 estimated for 1935.

The 1935 figure was a peak year in estimates dating back to 1910.

The decrease between 1935 and 1956 was about 27 per cent. This rate was slightly greater than the national rate from the peak year, also 1935, for the Nation.

The department's figures show the estimated yearly decreases in Virginia farms have been at a greater rate since 1946 than in the previous 11 years.

A department official said it's pretty much guess work whether the decrease is leveling off.

"We guessed a few years ago that it was leveling off, but 1950 figures showed us it didn't happen," he said.

A number of factors are involved, he said. These include a growing amount of farm land being taken by suburban, industrial and other nonagricultural users, and some consolidation of farms.